

World summit sought on plight of poor nations

A plan for a drastic restructuring of relations between rich and poor nations was presented by Herr Willy Brandt in New York yesterday. It was contained in the report of the Brandt Commission, which also put forward a four-point emergency plan to avert global disaster. It suggested that a summit of world leaders should discuss the emergency programme.

Four-point plan to avert disaster

By Roger Berthoud

The relationship between the world's rich and poor countries must be drastically reshaped if both the industrialized and developing countries are to be rescued from the present international crisis.

Such a very broadly, is the overall conclusion of an unprecedented two-year inquiry by 18 leading and independent figures from the two parts of the globe, led by Herr Willy Brandt, the former German Chancellor, whose findings are summed up in a 300-page report.

This report, entitled "North-South: A Programme for Survival", was presented yesterday in New York by Herr Brandt to Dr Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

It concludes with a suggestion for a summit of world leaders from North and South to consider a four-point emergency programme involving: a large-scale transfer of resources to developing countries; an international energy strategy; a global food programme; and a reform of the international economic system.

The report is full of horrendous statistics: 800 million are destitute; 17 million children die below the age of five every year in developing countries, where blindness afflicts 30 to 40 million people; there are 34 countries where more than 80 per cent of the population is illiterate; the biggest cities of the third world are likely to exceed populations of 30 million by the end of the century.

Among the commission's more dramatic suggestions for arresting the march to chaos is for an international tax on the arms trade, as well as on international trade, travel and global assets like sea-bed minerals.

The chief argument of the report of the Independent Commission on International Development Issues, as it is formally called, is that the developed and developing countries are mutually dependent. "The self-interest of nations can now only be effectively pursued through taking account of mutual interests," it states.

Presenting the report in London yesterday, Mr Edward Heath, the former Conservative

Prime Minister who had been an extremely active member of the commission, commented: "Our conclusion is that the industrialized world, the North, cannot hope to survive at the standard of living which it has experienced in the past nor can the developing world hope to survive at its present level—and in places it will not survive at all—unless we carry through this programme for survival."

"The industrialized, developed world has large, unused resources. We have 18 million unemployed in the OECD countries. We have spare capacity variously estimated at between \$250 and \$400 billion (up to £174,000m) a year. The developing world wants the resources, wants to be able to make use of them, wants to have the capital equipment we can supply, and many of the goods they cannot supply themselves."

To bring the two satisfactorily together, the commission proposed a concordat or agreement between the Opec countries, which had the surpluses, and the developed North to use their resources to enable the developing countries to improve their position and equip themselves, and in the process get the world economy going again, he said.

"I, of course, want to see the British government taking part in this concordat, and contributing its part to the developing world," Mr Heath said, "not necessarily through more aid, but certainly through the arrangements it is prepared to make in other fields such as technology, such as dealing with imports of manufactured goods, such as commodity agreements and so on."

Herr Brandt, in a passionately argued introduction to the report, describes the reshaping of North-South relations as the greatest challenge to mankind for the remainder of the century. "It was widely argued, he admits, that the present time of prolonged recession was the worst moment for advancing radical changes. Yet rarely has the future of the world seemed so endangered as now."

Summary of report, page 5
Leading article, page 15

BL will not improve on rejected pay offer

By Donald MacIntyre
Labour Reporter

British Leyland last night declared itself determined not to bow to union pressure by improving a pay offer rejected by nearly six to four in a secret ballot of the company's 85,000 car workers.

In an 82 per cent poll, the results of which were announced yesterday, the workforce voted by 41,422 to 28,623 to back their negotiators' rejection of an offer yielding basic increases of between 5 and 10 per cent.

Mr Greaville Hawley, Transport and General Workers' Union autonomous group secretary, announcing the result in London, made clear that he regarded it as a clear mandate for the unions to insist on a substantial improvement in the offer when they meet the management in the Midlands on Friday.

The company, seizing on the fact that "less than one in two of those eligible" had voted for rejection, said bluntly, almost immediately after the announcement, that it "does not have the cash to improve its offer."

Although the ballot results and the company's response, coming after the shock of Monday night's announcement of imminent pay cut-offs, have helped to plunge management into still deeper disarray, there was no immediate threat of a strike.

Mr Hawley said: "We will do everything possible to try to resolve our differences with the company without harmful effects to our members. Obviously a strike is harmful to our members. If there is an all-out strike it will not be for want of our trying to prevent it."

The vote, which he described as "overwhelmingly in support of their negotiators," had been achieved, he said, despite a "campaign of interference" by the company in the ballot which had even obstructed the holding of meetings to discuss the negotiators' rejection of the offer.

Mr Hawley said: "Arguably we could say that they were trying to interfere with the decision. Unfortunately we have to say that this has done nothing to influence our opinion on the holding of ballots in factories."

However, Mr Raymond Horrocks, chief executive of Leyland Cars, said: "BL notes that the unions failed to get support from a majority of the BL Cars' hourly paid workforce eligible to vote. Clearly, with only 49 per cent backing the negotiators... there is now no mandate for strike action."

It was "almost unprecedented for a negotiating team to receive such scant support when seeking an overall settlement from its members on a wage-related issue."

Mr Hawley, pointing to the high turnout and the majorities of 59 per cent and 41 per cent in the vote, countered by the Electoral Reform Society, said: "If we accepted Sir Michael Edwards' version of democracy we would never have a government after a general election."

Workers' anger, page 2
Leading article, page 15
Business News, page 19



Mrs Gandhi, Indian Prime Minister, discusses Afghanistan with Mr Gromyko, Soviet Foreign Minister, during his visit to Delhi yesterday. Report, page 6

Oppenheimer group behind Gold Fields deal

By Ronald Pullen in London
and Harold Fridjohn
in Johannesburg

Mr Harry Oppenheimer's South African-based Anglo-American mining group revealed yesterday that it was the buyer of shares in Consolidated Gold Fields, one of the United Kingdom's largest industrial and mining companies.

The admission that the company holds just over 25 per cent which has cost more than £150m, ends almost 10 months of speculation at Gold Fields over who was buying the shares. Last November Lord Erroll of Hale, Consolidated's

chairman, spoke of the dangers of a "creeping acquisition".

Over the last week there had been more persistent buying of the shares on the London Stock Exchange. On Monday, Gold Fields asked for the assistance of the Department of Trade, under section 172 of the 1948 Companies Act, to nominate the owners of the shares.

There was relief in mining circles, especially in Johannesburg, when the news broke that Anglo-American and not the much-remembered Afrikaner interests represented by General Mining had bought the stake in Gold Fields.

This was reflected in the

share price movement of Gold Fields. The share price of Consolidated's 46 per cent-owned South African mining subsidiary, which rose sharply from R77 (£40) to R84 after the announcement.

Anglo's moves had been made through its diamond mining associate, De Beers Consolidated Mines, which is flush with cash and has access to funds outside South Africa's exchange control regulations.

De Beers said it had bought 7,430,000 shares in Gold Fields and had secured options on a further 7,430,000 shares and 5,220,000 shares from two other parties, equivalent to 13.4 per

cent of Consolidated's issued equity capital.

De Beers also purchased another 16,500,000 shares in the London market yesterday which, combined with first refusal on a further 1,300,000 shares from a third party, takes the overall holding of De Beers to just over 25 per cent.

Shares in Gold Fields moved sharply yesterday rising to 615p at one stage before dropping back to close 60 down at 515p.

Half of the De Beers holding will be transferred to Anglo-American and De Beers stressed it would not buy further shares which, under the

Continued on page 17, col 5

Magistrate murdered at Rome university

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Feb 12

Signor Vittorio Bachelet was not a dramatic personality. The three terrorists today gave this leading figure among the country's judicial authorities a purposely dramatic end by killing him on the steps of the university faculty where he taught. The matter of yards away from the hall in which a meeting was taking place on the problem of terrorism.

To be short in the highly charged atmosphere of Rome's University has symbolically great significance; but he was also vice-chairman of the Higher Judicial Council, the judiciary's self-governing body which has the head of state as its president.

President Pertini went immediately to the university on hearing the news of the shooting shortly before midday. He spent some minutes by the body of the man with whom he had worked closely and had seen last on Thursday when they had talked about the allegations made by a Christian Democratic senator and former judge who had accused some 10 Rome judges of collusion with terrorism.

Public opinion had in fact been expecting some venture by the terrorists in reply to President Pertini's speech in Padua on Friday. Inaugurating the academic year in a city among the worst hit by violence and terrorism, President Pertini had spoken of the rejection of terrorism as a new resistance movement. The killing today of Signor Bachelet was seen by some of the teaching staff at Rome University as a "perverted reply" to the head of state's call to do battle with terrorism.

Agreeable self last night at a party given by the Italian Embassy to the Holy See to mark the anniversary of the Lateran Pacts. He was a staunch Catholic, highly respected as much with those who disagreed with him as with his associates. He would have been 54 tomorrow week. Two brothers are Jesuits and he leaves a widow and two children.

From 1964 to 1973 he was chairman of the Catholic Action movement where he applied the new thinking of the Vatican Council to this biggest and in some ways most controversial of Catholic lay organizations. He taught administrative law in the faculty of political sciences at Rome University and had previously taught the subject in Trieste and Pavia.

The Pope promptly sent a telegram of condolence to the widow. Vatican radio broadcast a series of tributes to him. Cardinal Ballestrero, the chairman of the National Episcopal Conference, virtually limited his comments to the words of Jesus calling for pardon for his executioners "because they know not what they do."

The supposedly extreme left-wing Red Brigades terrorist group claimed responsibility for the killing in an anonymous telephone call to two newspaper offices. The news was received at the Chamber of Deputies with incredulity. The trade unions immediately called a general strike of two hours tomorrow for public schools.

They are organizing a demonstration of protest at the university. Signor Bachelet had as

Continued on page 6, col 4

Moscow's former UN envoy dies

Moscow, Feb 12.—Mr Jacob Malik, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister and a former Ambassador to Britain, has died aged 73, Tass reported today.

Mr Malik headed the Soviet delegation to the United Nations from 1948 to 1952, and again in 1968 until 1976 when he returned to Moscow.

To many United Nations observers he represented the old school of tough, abrasive and proverb-wielding Kremlin diplomats brought up in the cold war days under Joseph Stalin.—AP.

President Tito unchanged

Belgrade, Feb 12.—President Tito's condition remained unchanged, his doctors reported tonight. The 87-year-old President's heart was still showing occasional weakness and kidney difficulties were complicating his recovery from the amputation of his left leg.

TUC seeks cut in lower rate of tax

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Trade union leaders are to urge the Government to reduce the lower rate of income tax to 20p in the £ and abandon its "doctrinaire obsession with monetary policy."

The TUC's two main recommendations in TUC proposals for an alternative policy to the Cabinet's economic strategy. They will be put to Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Chancellor of the Exchequer, before his visit to the TUC on February 27.

The ideas are outlined in a final confidential draft of the TUC's 1980 economic review to be considered by union leaders this morning. A chapter is devoted to a critique of monetarism called for by the TUC Economic Committee after it saw the first draft.

The review is candidly gloomy arguing that for most people living standards will fall this year and only the "rich and a few others" can look forward to sustaining their way of life.

The TUC's alternative strategy is "a move away from confrontation" towards agreement on a whole range of policies designed to achieve greater employment, economic growth, stable prices and a balance of payments surplus.

If the Government holds to its present course, the unions see unemployment rising, certainly to 1.6 million this year and possibly 2 million by 1981; falling real wages, accelerating inflation and a deficit on the balance of payments.

The document says: "The Government's policy of controlling the money supply will not work. The idea that competition and the free play of market forces can provide the means for allocating resources is naive."

The TUC warns against "dangerous talk" among ministers of removing legal immunities from trade unions that have existed since 1906. It suggests that there will be a two per cent fall in Britain's gross

domestic product this year, and says the chances of achieving satisfactory growth are slim over the next few years.

The year 1980 could open a decade of economic opportunity for Britain based on North Sea oil but to take that advantage the Government must end its doctrinaire obsession with monetary policies.

Arguing that the last Budget was socially divisive, the TUC calls for a cut in the lower rate of income tax from 25 per cent to 20 per cent and a widening of the rate band from £750 to £1,000. Higher rates of tax thresholds should stay as they are.

Among the interventionist ideas urged on the Cabinet are a new £1,000m-a-year lending facility for industry jointly funded by the Government and financial institutions; greater support for the National Enterprise Board, particularly in the micro electronics field; an "imaginative programme of investment" in the nationalized industries; and temporary import controls to protect British industry, and less restrictive guidelines for the Welsh and Scottish development agencies.

The TUC adds: "The Government claims that public expenditure is at the heart of Britain's present economic difficulties, but offers no evidence to substantiate this. It would be more accurate to say that the lack of public spending is a problem."

"The Government should return to policies of planning a level of public borrowing and monetary expansion in relation to the real potential for growth in the economy. An expansionary Budget is needed to begin to reverse the slump."

The TUC's economic review is the first to appear since the Callaghan administration lost office last May. Labour Chancellors often took seriously some union advice and proposals. But Sir Geoffrey is expected to take little notice.

Government delays union curb plans

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

The announcement of the Government's keenly awaited proposals for curbing trade union immunities in secondary industrial action has been postponed for a second time because of ministerial inability to agree.

The issue will not now be decided at a critical meeting of ministers today, but will go before the full Cabinet tomorrow, where the outcome is still authoritatively seen as hanging in the balance, between the hard-liners and the moderates.

Even when the Cabinet has reached a final decision, more time would be needed to complete a draft of the Green Paper, and to give a first sight of that to the Commons standing committee, which is considering the employment Bill.

That information emerged last night on the eve of today's critical Cabinet committee meeting, which, with the Prime Minister in the chair, will consider the latest draft proposals by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment.

The TUC adds: "The Govern-

New Soames power can 'strike off' voters

From Dan van der Vat
Salisbury, Feb 12

Lord Soames, Governor of Southern Rhodesia, today assumed further powers to deal with the intimidation of voters. They are set out in an ordinance and will enable him to disenfranchise voters in areas where intimidation is considered severe enough to prevent a free and fair election.

A British spokesman here said the Governor hoped he would not have to use the power, intended as a final warning to the parties to control their activists. He would wait the position over the next 10 to 14 days.

If the new measure is applied it would effectively cancel the election in the districts concerned.

In the event of such orders being issued, there would be no polling booths or public meetings in the specific areas, and the use of buses and other transport to take voters to other areas would be forbidden.

But in theory there is no bar on voters walking to polling stations in other areas.

"The Governor is trying to roll back the frontiers of intimidation," the spokesman said. There were many areas said to be impossible for all parties to campaign freely and the Governor regarded the extra power as essential to complete his armoury.

Lord Soames is also taking a considerable risk with this measure because the list of areas where intimidation is said

to be at its worst, read out by the spokesman tonight, unfortunately happen to be almost exclusively districts where the radical Zanu (PF) party of Mr Robert Mugabe is strongest.

Even if it is true that the Zanu (PF) party expect to win most seats, it has more violent supporters than any other and is also the target of more violence and assassination attempts than any other.

The risk for the British, therefore, is that if the emergency powers are used they may become rods for their own backs by appearing, to some, to be discriminating against Mr Mugabe's party.

The election council, on which all parties are represented, met today to be told of

the new powers. They also agreed that the chanting of slogans and singing, which could easily develop into intimidation, should be barred within a certain radius of polling stations.

British sources indicated that there may soon be further banings of individuals or parties in certain cases, under the new powers, which would be far more onerous than the current ones—against the treasurer of Zanu (PF).

Lord Soames received Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Patriotic Front (PF), for a "general exchange of views", which were described as "friendly and during which Mr Nkomo complained about the level of intimidation by other parties.

Iranians seek arms deal with Britain

An Iranian military team has ended discussions in Whitehall on the possible resumption of British arms sales to Tehran. It was the second series of arms talks between the two countries during the last nine months and during the last, Iran's ambition to rebuild its shattered forces as a counter to internal opposition and external aggression. It is thought that if the American hostages in Tehran are released safely supplies might be resumption of arms supplies might be possible within 12 months. Page 6

Farm price plea

Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the European Commission, has warned the European Parliament that failure to cut agricultural expenditure in money as well as real terms in the EEC spring price package, could endanger the existence of the common agricultural policy in its present form. Page 5

Petrol prices may rise by 5p

Petrol prices could rise by as much as 5p a gallon of four star after British Petroleum's decision to increase its Forties, North Sea, oil by \$4 (£1.74) a barrel to \$33.75. This puts British oil prices among the most expensive in the world and is effective from February 8. The British National Oil Corporation is expected to fix its prices at \$33.75 a barrel. Page 17

School radio spared

The BBC has rejected proposals for a 50 per cent cut in continuing education radio in terms of air time and resources and an 18 per cent cut in school radio. Education will not suffer a disproportionate level of economies in the Budget. Page 4

Ceasefire collapses

The shaky ceasefire in southern Lebanon, which was negotiated by the United Nations last August, has finally collapsed after an intense artillery bombardment which lasted two days. The collapse raises again the possibility of Israeli intervention on behalf of the Christian minority. Page 6

Doctors' house calls for £50 a year

London Locums, a company providing a deputising service for doctors, plans to provide house-visit services to cover everyone in a subscriber's home. Availability of doctors for 24 hours, seven days a week would cost £50 a year. Page 3

Moves for talks on water strike threat

Urgent attempts are being made to reopen talks on the strike threatened by water and sewerage workers from February 25. Unions and employers agreed that a meeting should be held but no date has been settled. Page 2

Soviet call to Allies

An indication that Moscow expects its East European allies to tighten discipline and speak with one voice was given by Mr Mikhail Suslov, a Soviet Politburo member. He told the Polish Communist Party conference in Warsaw that it was imperative to "strengthen our lines". Page 6

Missiles for TA

An order worth more than £20m is expected soon from the Ministry of Defence for Blowpipe anti-aircraft missiles for the Territorial Army. The order will reinforce the TA's combat role. Page 4

Union school: The TUC plans to set up a £1m centre to provide courses for Britain's 500,000 shop stewards' union officers, and safety representatives. Page 3

Prescription death: The chemist who made up a prescription that led to a child's death was reprimanded by the Pharmaceutical Society. Page 4

Paris: M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, faces the press for the first time for a year to correct his image as an impulsive, hot-headed and unreliable leader. Page 5

Classified advertisements: Appointments, pages 24, 25; Creme de la Creme, 23, 24; Personal, 25, 26; Property, 11, 25

Home News 24 Crossword 26
European News 5 Diary 14
Overseas News 6, 7 Engagements 8, 14
Appointments 16, 20 Features 8, 14
Arts 9 Law Report 3
Business 17-22 Letters 15, 18
Court 16 Obituary 16

Leader page, 15
Letters: On unions and the law, from Mr Keith Showering, and others; on child benefits, from Miss Mary Fowey Evans, and others.
Leading articles: Brandt report; British Leyland.
Arts, page 9
John Russell Taylor, reviewing the Vikings exhibition at the British Museum, finds historical revelation in the artefacts of a supposedly "primitive" culture.
Features, pages 8, 14
Anthony Steen on getting service for the rates may; Dr Rowley de Villiers on South Africa and the Olympics.
Obituary, page 16
Rev Dr A. J. Boyd, Dr E. C. Robertson.
Business News, pages 17-22
Stock Markets: Equities marked time eclipsed by the worries on the industrial front. Glits gave way to further selling and the FT index dipped 0.6 to 469.3.
Financial Editor: Gold Fields' new shareholder.
Business features: Edward Townsend on the threat to British Leyland's survival plan; Peter Hill looks at the Sheerness Steel Company; Ronald Pullen describes how Mr Harry Oppenheimer bought into Consolidated Gold Fields.

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HOME NEWS

Urgent attempts to restart talks on water strike threat

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Urgent attempts were being made last night to reopen negotiations on the threatened strike by water and sewerage workers. Unions and employers agreed that a meeting should be held but no date has yet been fixed.

While arrangements were being made, the National Water Council, the employers' organization, repeated its call for a ballot to be held of the 22,000 members of the General and Municipal Workers' Union (GMWU) who have threatened to strike from February 25.

The council said: "We believe that there is sufficient evidence of enough people wanting to accept the offer, for the union to hold a ballot and we have told the union we will provide whatever assistance is necessary for a ballot to be held."

The spokesman said some workers in the industry were surprised when they heard that a strike had been called because they thought the 12 per cent pay offer was acceptable. The council said the main areas of discontent with the strike call were the Midlands and North West.

Mr Edmund Newall, GMWU national officer, said there was no need to go for a ballot after the members' views had been made known at a special delegate conference on Monday which voted almost unanimously to reject the offer.

* The fact of the matter is

that having had the delegate conference, whose job it is to represent our members in the industry, the members' views were made known," Mr Newall said.

If there had not been the degree of unanimity there was at the meeting, I would have had doubts over whether it was representative. But after that decision there is no doubt in my mind that the conference was representative.

The £27m offer, which would increase the basic rate for a 40-hour week to £65 and push up weekly average earnings by more than £17 to nearly £108, is being put to members of three other unions in the industry.

The leadership of the National Union of Public Employees, the agricultural workers and the Transport and General Workers' Union have recommended that the offer be accepted but results of their consultations will probably not be known until next week.

This poses a problem for any further negotiations if those unions are to be involved, and discussions between the four are taking place over the next few days.

In the meantime Mr David Barnett, GMWU general secretary, is trying to arrange a special meeting of his executive to consider the water workers' call for the strike to be made official.

Mr Newall yesterday sent urgent messages to his members instructing them not to take unofficial action.

Mrs Thatcher shows a steely resolve

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

If Mrs Thatcher is having sleepless nights worrying her self into a frenzy over her warring Cabinet, there was no evidence of that in the Commons yesterday, as she struck out to right and left with apparently little regard for the sensitivities of her more emotional colleagues.

Indeed, the Prime Minister seemed almost to be going out of her way to show how robustly she was standing up to the strike and strain of high office. With ministers reportedly only too ready to garrote each other in the darker recesses of the corridors of power, the Iron Maiden showed no signs of being smelted in the political blast furnace.

As Mr. Dillaghan tried to blast her into indiscretions over the sufferings of small businessmen writhing under the lash of the minimum lending rate, she turned the tables neatly on the Leader of the Opposition when he spoke of the MLR rise in June to 15 per cent. It was in fact 14 per cent, the Prime Minister remarked acidly. But she went on, referring to the Labour leader's suggestion on Monday for settling the steel strike, Mr Callaghan of course did not care "a damn thing" about 1 per cent.

She pointed out that the process of reducing public expenditure so that the nation could live within its means, after living beyond its means for so long under Labour, would be something unkind and probably uncouth from the depths of the Labour Front Bench. Perhaps the former Chancellor was

referring to himself, she suggested, for the minister continued: "Surely he could not argue with the fact that there was a high increase in public expenditure last year. The new Conservative Government had to attempt to reduce that expenditure and while it succeeded, the interest rate would go down. More splutterings from Mr. Healey."

Mrs Thatcher had much the same message for the water workers, the steel workers and British Leyland. They were left in no doubt that however justified for Cabinet colleagues were becoming over the state of the nation and industrial relations, there would be no more Government handouts for already highly-paid employees, and trade union reforms would move inexorably forward.

To the water workers, the Prime Minister said she hoped they would remember that the increases being demanded would have to be met by people who had far less in their pay packets. She pointed out that the offer being made was in excess of the retail price index.

On British Leyland, she hoped that the men would not take industrial action, adding that already some £1,000m had gone into the company.

On steel, the Prime Minister congratulated the employees of Sheerness Steel, who had exercised their lawful right to continue to earn a living for themselves and their families. It was noticeable, Mrs Thatcher said, that private sector steel, operating in the same world, was able to make a profit, while the British Steel Corporation was making heavy losses. If British Steel wished to sell some of its plants, which might otherwise be closed, to the private sector, that would be an excellent solution and there would be no objection from the Government.

Arson suspected
A fire which caused damage of £1,000 at the Prince Maurice barracks, Whitehall, yesterday might have been started deliberately, police said. It was the third fire there this year.

BL chairman attacked for lay-off scheme

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial
Correspondent

Trade unionists responded angrily last night to the news that tens of thousands of BL workers are to be laid off because of the company's falling sales.

Most of the anger was directed at Sir Michael Edwards, BL chairman, and workers fear that he will soon announce redundancies above the 25,000 and 13 plant closures, in his recovery plan.

BL will not give details of the total to be laid off until shop stewards have been told at each of the affected plants.

Mr William Jordan, Midlands divisional organizer of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said: "I think any other manager would have expected the myth that he is the saviour of the car industry."

He claimed that the lay-offs were part of a management plan to soften up the work force to make them more "pliable".

Mr John Barker, the Transport and General Workers' Union official at Longbridge, said: "If this trend continues the unemployment rate in the West Midlands will rise well above the national average. It is clear that Edwards is not the right man for the job because he is not a motor-car man."

Mr Edward McGarry, the TGWU convenor at Triumph Coventry, one of the plants marked for closure, said: "We are very sorry this is a mistake by management. Only yesterday they were saying that the Buy British sales campaign was going well."

Mr Stephen Rankin, Midlands director of the Confederation of British Industry, said the repercussions could be very serious since about 30 per cent of the engineering industry in the West Midlands was involved with BL.

Widespread lay-offs by component suppliers seem inevitable. Ford, which has a subcontract UK, all reported to have reduced their supply schedules in expectation of a sharp fall in British demand for cars this year.

It is difficult to see how BL can continue to take normal supplies when it is facing a serious cash-flow difficulty. A senior executive of a leading component manufacturer said last night: "When a market leader such as Ford starts to make significant cuts in its research and development, we are in for a rough time." Several component firms had started laying off men.

Nearly 6,000 BL workers were laid off last night because of unofficial strikes at two plants. A walk-out by 70 Cardiff workers stopped production of Rover saloons at Solihull and TR7 sports cars at Triumph Coventry. The Rover men refused to carry parts by hand when a mechanical track broke down.

At Jaguar, Coventry, a strike by 400 workers protesting at a new wage-grading system almost halted production of saloons.

Man questioned as car injures pickets at Lucas

A man was being interviewed by police last night after three pickets were knocked down in a hit-and-run incident outside the Lucas CAV factory at Ipswich.

The incident came as 250 production workers walked out in a dispute over the upgrading of a worker to foreman. Pickets said a car mounted the pavement and struck the men before driving away.

Two of the pickets received minor injuries. A third, Mr Peter Goodby, 36, of Peterborough, near Ipswich, went home after treatment at Ipswich hospital for severe leg bruising.



Policemen pinning pickets to the wall as non-strikers report for work at the private sector steel plant of Hadfields in Sheffield yesterday.

Acas move to break steel deadlock today

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Leaders of the two unions that called the national steel strike are to meet top officials of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service today in a fresh attempt to get peace talks moving with the British Steel Corporation.

The talks will involve Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the dominant Iron and Steel Trades Confederation (ISTC), and Mr Hector Smith, general secretary of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen, who have rejected BSC's final offer of 14.4 per cent increases tied to changed working practices and productivity improvement.

But the unions were last night playing down the significance of the meeting, which was arranged at the request of Acas. The two union leaders simply "feel it is courteous to go along", an ISTC official said, "in the context of exploratory discussions on possible solutions to the strike, which today enters its seventh week, comes as the steelworkers' union takes steps to mount a High Court action aimed at halting BSC's plant closure programme."

Solicitors representing the ISTC have taken out a writ against BSC management alleging that they have failed in their statutory duties laid down by the 1967 Act nationalizing the industry to consult the unions on matters affecting them.

The union seeks an injunction restraining the corporation from closing any plant and from acting "on any conclusions reached in BSC's wide-ranging

review of its steelmaking operations."

The corporation said last night that it considered it had more than adequately met its statutory duties on the question of consultation over closures. It was pointed out that the steelworkers had broken off consultations on November.

The provisional deal covering 70,000 craft and general workers in the industry upon which so many hopes rest as a solution to the strike has been rejected by one of the largest unions in state steel. Lay delegates representing about 16,000 workers belonging to the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) voted two-to-one not to accept the pay and productivity package.

The decision is a serious blow to BSC, hopes that the draft settlement for craft and general workers would provide a formula to get the two main unions to end their shutdown of the industry.

The TGWU is to have talks with other unions involved in the negotiation of the deal. The two largest of those, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, yesterday decided to recommend acceptance when delegates meet in London tomorrow.

In the Commons yesterday, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary said in a written reply that 136 pickets had been arrested between January 2, when the strike began, and February 9.

Business News, page 19

Coal pledge fails to lift strike threat

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Miners' leaders in South Wales were adamant yesterday that the British Steel Corporation's plan to import less coking coal would not affect the miners' commitment for a strike in five weeks.

Mr Emlyn Williams, president of the South Wales miners, said that the plan for the National Coal Board to subsidize coal by £22m did nothing to avert the possibility of pit closures in that area if BSC proceeded with plans to halve steel production.

"The coal board is merely subsidizing this deal to the cost of investment in the industry elsewhere. As far as we are concerned nothing has changed, our commitment towards all-out action remains," Mr Williams said. But he added that the miners would continue to be guided by the Wales TUC.

As the South Wales steelmen's attitude to the strike hardened yesterday Mr John Foley, divisional officer of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation said that his men wanted to "withdraw safety cover at all British steelworks."

He said that the move was "an expression of the frustration and bitterness of the men" because of the way BSC handled pay negotiations last Friday.

According to Mr Foley several hundred men are still providing cover at the Llanwern works.

His demand for the withdrawal of safety cover will be considered by the union's central strike committee, who are due to meet on Friday.

Advertisements call on workers to go back

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Private-sector steel producers today launch a national advertising campaign designed to encourage their employees to return to work.

The 20,000 members of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, employed by about 50 steel manufacturers affiliated to the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, were ordered to rejoin the strike in support of their BSC colleagues after a House of Lords decision.

The employers had secured injunctions in the Court of Appeal to prevent their members being brought out but the decision was reversed in the Lords. The independent steel companies have claimed that their workers had no wish to join the strike and said that if companies closed, several would not reopen.

Mr John Paterson, the association's president, estimated that the strike by private-sector BSC workers is causing losses of £10m a week. Cracks in the private sector support for the strike have already appeared. At the weekend, workers at Hadfields plant in Sheffield voted to return to work.

At the Norwegian-owned Manchester Steel are due to return today. Employees of a Midlands steel company, Lloyd Cooper, are also expected to return today and the advertising campaign is being complemented by discussions at plant level between management and employee representatives.

The advertisement, which consists of questions and answers, makes the points that the private sector is not in dispute with the ISTC, that the strike is a dispute between the union and the BSC, and that private-sector involvement is not only losing workers their wages, but also threatening jobs.

Against the background of a writ issued yesterday by the ISTC against the BSC over alleged lack of consultation in the corporation's plant-closure programme, a report was published on possibilities of establishing worker-owned enterprises at Corby, where 5,500 iron and steeling jobs are being phased out.

The report, published by Job Ownership Ltd and commissioned by the Corby Development Corporation and the Tubes Division of BSC, outlined a two-stage strategy companies at Corby. The first would involve setting up a worker ownership office in the town for six months to possibilities. It would be financed either by Job Ownership or the Government's Co-operative Development Agency.

Scrap merchants' plea: Britain's scrap merchants, who have become more dependent upon exports because of the steel strike, have urged the Government to continue until June their freedom to sell abroad (Edward Townsend writes).

Restrictions on scrap exports were lifted in September and the British Scrap Federation said yesterday it had reached agreement with United Kingdom consumers for the freedom from export licensing to be continued.

Thirteen striking pickets held by police

From Alan Hamilton
Sheffield

Thirteen pickets were arrested yesterday during brushes with police at the main gate of Hadfields, the Sheffield independent steelmaker at which the 2,800-strong workforce decided to return from the national steel strike and resume normal working two days ago.

Pickets drawn mainly from strike-bound British Steel plants in Rotherham have maintained a strong, if variable, presence at the gates of the factory more to ensure that Mr Derek Norton, Hadfield's chairman, kept his word not to move any finished products out of the factory than to prevent the workers getting in.

In the first of two incidents yesterday more than 600 pickets broke ranks and blocked the gates as a large lorry loaded with scrap steel prepared to leave, overwhelming the efforts of 150 police to hold them back. There were scuffles, flying helmets, and five arrests.

Union officials restored order by announcing that the lorry driver had decided not to leave. In a second incident, during which the pickets were again a large body of reinforcements advanced on the gates and tried with some success to break the police cordon. The police later sealed the area by placing a four-dee pline of officers with shields and batons across the approach road.

The return to work by Hadfields men has generated widespread ill-feeling among the local steel strike committee, which was relying on solid support from the private sector for the 42-day state steel stoppage.

Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, recommended that the company should be exempted from the strike after hearing a story of great financial hardship from Hadfield's chairman. But the South Yorkshire Strike Committee is refusing to recognize any dispensation for the company.

South Yorkshire delegates are calling for a motion of no confidence in Mr Sirs at a meeting this week of the federation's national executive committee for his handling of the Hadfields issue.

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions gave a warning in Sheffield yesterday the widespread lay-offs were likely by the end of this week as the engineering industry began to run short of steel.

R. W. Shakespeare, Northern Industrial Correspondent, writes: The move by strikers in privately-owned steel works to return to work is gathering momentum in the North-west. Yesterday 120 men from the Bidston Steel plant at Birkenhead, part of the Norwegian-owned Manchester Steel Group, returned to work yesterday after a vote at the weekend.

The plant had been expected to be the subject of heavy picketing by federation strikers from British Steel plants, but not one picket was visible when the Bidston Steel men arrived. Workers at the privately-owned Bredbury Steel works at Stockport have also voted by an overwhelming majority to return to work.

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Union solidarity impressed on Mr Callaghan

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, discussed the steel strike for 90 minutes last night with Mr William Sirs, of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, and Mr Hector Smith, of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen.

Mr Michael Foot, deputy leader of the Labour Party, and Mr John Silkin, the shadow Minister for Industry, were also present.

The Labour leaders were in no doubt about the solidarity of the unions and there was no sign of any weakening in their resistance to the present British Steel Corporation offer. For their part, Mr Callaghan and his colleagues concluded that the time was not right for any dramatic moves.

Ships diverted as London dockers strike

By Our Labour Staff

London's three enclosed docks were idle for a second day yesterday because of a strike over pay by 1,100 dockers. Attempts were being made last night to bring the unions and employers together to try to solve the dispute.

The strikers belong to the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers' Union and most of the 3,300 dockers who are members of the Transport and General Workers' Union

are refusing to cross picket lines. Eight vessels were lying unloaded in the India and Millwall docks, the Royal group and Tilbury. Attempts were being made last night to bring the unions and employers together to try to solve the dispute.

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Mr Leslie Newman, general secretary of the stevedores' union, said yesterday that the employers' 12 per cent offer was an inadequate reply to the union's claim for about 30 per cent.

"With a lot of our members earning £61 a week net, 12 per cent does not produce much of an increase," he said. "The employers say that they cannot afford a higher increase, but equally our people cannot afford to live on £61," he said.

The employers refused to concede a claim by the three main printing unions for a reduction of the working week to 37 hours but held out a prospect of some movement on hours if the unions agree to drop some strict demarcation lines.

The offer covers 116,000 workers and would increase the minimum grade rate by £7.9 a week to just over £61. Minimum earnings, including a supplementary payment, would rise to £70 a week.

Union negotiators representing the National Graphical

Association, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, and the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel agreed to consider the offer and a further meeting is to be held next week.

The unions had placed great emphasis on reducing the 40-hour week to 37 hours and were disappointed last night that the employers had not made any movement on the issue.

Proposals for changed working arrangements are unlikely to meet with approval by the unions, who jealously guard their craftsmen's positions.

The unions' claim was for a 28 per cent increase in basic rates and the 37-hour week as a first step towards the 35-hour week.

Several National Front candidates declared that their election costs came to only £1, or small sums up to £12.

Mr G. M. Willmott, at Manchester, Central, kept his total expenses down to £1. Mr J. N. W. Fox, who stood as "The Silly Party" at Dover and Deal, spent £10 on his campaign and received 642 votes.

Return of Election Expenses, May 1979 (Stationery Office, £5.75).

October, 1974, those totalling £93,000. The returns show that in total the candidates in May 1979, spent about 81p per person on the electoral role, compared with 51p a vote the October, 1974, election, but it was a decrease of 20 per cent in real terms.

In the 1979 election, printing and stationery, accounted for more than 80 per cent of the total expenditure of candidates, nearly £2m. The next largest item of expenditure was £176,000 for election agents, compared with £103,000.

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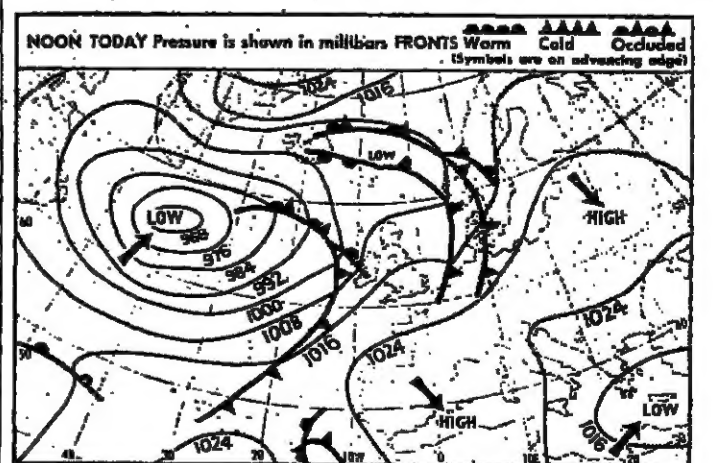
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Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 5.11 am
Sun sets: 5.01 pm
Moon rises: 5.01 am
Moon sets: 3.54 pm
New Moon: February 15.
Lighting up: 5.41 pm to 6.48 am.
High Water: London Bridge, 11.02 am, 6.00 pm, 11.36 pm, 6.30 am.
Low Water: London Bridge, 4.10 am, 10.08 am, 4.45 pm, 11.30 pm, Dover, 8.19 am, 5.56 pm, 8.36 pm, 5.30 am, Hull, 3.25 am, 6.00 pm, 3.50 pm, 6.30 pm, Liverpool, 8.40 am, 8.00 pm, 9.05 pm, 8.20 am, 1.10 am, 0.30 am, 1.10 am, 0.30 am.
A trough of low pressure will cross E districts as another trough approaches from the W.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:
London, SE, central S, E England, East Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: occasional rain, becoming drier with sunny periods, moderate; max temp 10° to 11°C (50° to 52°F).
Midlands, SW, central N England: sunny periods, becoming cloudy later; wind, SW, moderate.

Increasing fresh: max temp 10° to 11°C (50° to 52°F).
Wales, NW, England, Lake District, Lake District, Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Orkney: sunny intervals, becoming cloudy with rain during evening; wind SW moderate to fresh, increasing strong locally; max temp 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).

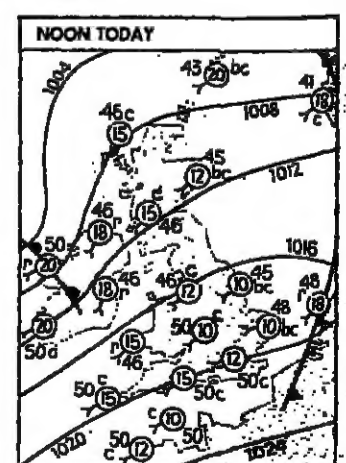
NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: sunny periods, becoming cloudy with rain; wind SW moderate, increasing fresh to strong; max temp 8° to 9°C (46° to 48°F).

Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland: sunny intervals, becoming cloudy with rain; wind SW fresh, increasing strong to gale; max temp 7° to 9°C (45° to 48°F).

Shetland: sunny intervals, becoming cloudy; wind SW, fresh to strong; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Continuing with rain at times, but also drier periods with some sunshine.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel



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UP TO £70 OFF SKIING HOLIDAYS.

Thinking of going skiing in February or March? If you book a skiing holiday at any hotel in top Spanish resorts like Formigal, La Molina, Masella and Cerler, we'll take an incredible £60 or £70 off the price of a two week holiday, and £30 or £25 off the price of a one week holiday. Departures are from Gatwick, Luton or Manchester.

These fantastic savings are available as long as you book before the end of February. So

HOME NEWS

Company plans all-day doctors' house call service for £50 a year

By John Roper

A private company which provides a deputising service for family doctors took a big step towards expanding private medical care by announcing yesterday a 24-hour house visiting medical service to cover everyone in a subscriber's home.

Initially the service, Medico, will reach 32 districts in north and north-west London. Its organisers, London Locums, will from March 1 make available for 24 hours, seven days a week a visit from a qualified doctor at a cost of £30 a day, plus £5 for each visit.

For £30 a year, the same service is offered from 7 pm to 7 am from Monday to Friday and from 7 am on Fridays to 7 am on Mondays. The £5 visiting fee includes the initial supply of any drugs needed.

The doctor will give the patient a clinical report in a sealed envelope for the patient to give to his own family doctor. The subscribers cover all members of a household, including visitors or anyone resident at the time of their illness.

London Locums Ltd is associated with Selective Audio Messages Ltd, which in the last eight years has developed a countrywide network of telecommunication and mobile radio communication services. Visiting doctors will use chauffeur-driven cars provided by the company.

Patients will be asked to pro-

vide a basic personal history which will be stored on a computer and those details will be made available to a Medico doctor on his way to answer a call.

Dr Morris Seifert, a general practitioner and a director of Medico, said that he was welcome to the idea. Many patients needed little more than reassurance.

But Dr John Havard, secretary of the British Medical Association, said: "The system of medical care in this country depends upon the general practitioner having overall responsibility for his patient. In order to safeguard patients, important ethical guide have been agreed."

"These new proposals strike at the foundations of general practice, undermining the very scheme which the organisers of this scheme say that they support. It presupposes that patients may be given treatment by a doctor who is entirely ignorant of the treatment being given by the patient's own GP."

Mr Raymond Francis, joint managing director of the London Locums, said a full-time doctor was a waiting list of doctors ready to give their services. All applicants must satisfy a medical panel that they had the necessary qualifications.

He expected that patients would first ring their own general practitioners. If assistance was not available, they could then turn to Medico.

TUC plans £1m centre for union education

By Our Education Correspondent

The TUC plan to set up a £1m national centre for trade union education to provide courses for the estimated 500,000 shop stewards, union officers and safety representatives in Britain.

The centre, premises for which have yet to be found, will be partly financed through loans from unions affiliated to the TUC. The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, of which Mr Clive Jenkins, chairman of the TUC education committee, is general secretary, has offered a loan of £250,000 at 12 per cent interest.

Mr Jenkins, announcing plans for the centre in London yesterday, said that there had been a revolution in the education department of the TUC over the past five years. The TUC had developed a scheme of training which this year would provide places for 50,000 shop stewards and full-time officials, but there was an increasing demand for more places.

The proposed new centre is expected to have residential places for about 100 students, and will include training in collective bargaining, employment law, company accounts, industrial tribunals, relations with the media, industrial democracy and new technology. The Government has provided £1.5m this year for TUC education.



Three Shrewsbury School pupils displaying a car for the disabled which, with two school friends, they designed and which is to be commercially produced.

NFU to defend battery farming against militant critics

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers decided yesterday to launch a quick defence of battery methods of producing poultry and animals. The decision was announced by the National Farmers' Union in London after members had criticised its leaders for being

outmanoeuvred by militant welfare campaigners.

Mr Roy Brown, a broiler chicken farmer from Bicester, Oxfordshire, said that activists had infiltrated political parties and the veterinary profession and had almost taken over the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

"It is the fanatics who get the headlines and try to subvert discussion of the issues by responsible bodies," he said.

Mrs Zella Milner, a pig and poultry farmer from Scarborough, North Yorkshire, said: "The union has failed on our behalf to respond to the lies and unfair allegations of

the welfareists. They are very much awake while the union sleeps."

Mr Alan Jackson, vice-president of the NFU, said that the union had avoided public arguments about welfare for many years, but was about to join in. It was futile to try to start a debate with extremists.

Thousands of children miss classes

More than 15,300 pupils at 13 secondary schools in Avon were affected yesterday by a third week of strike action by 330 members of the National Union of Teachers in protest against 54m cuts in the Education Bill.

More than 7,600 children missed classes. The remainder—mostly senior pupils preparing for examinations worked with teachers from other unions.

This week's strike is for three days. A fourth week of strike action is planned but details will not be released until the teachers learn the outcome of a meeting of the county's education committee in Bristol on Friday.

Mr Jack Evans, a union leader said in Bristol: "We hope the committee will come forward with some proposals in view of the serious situation affecting the education of children in Avon."

The teachers believe that an extra 25 teachers could end the dispute, which is mainly over falling staffing levels. Avon Education Committee says, however, that money is not available.

About 12,000 pupils were sent home in the Rotherham area because members of the National Union of Teachers are refusing to teach classes of more than 30, cover for colleagues and supervise at lunchtime.

Nearly 90,000 children in Northamptonshire have been told to stay away from school tomorrow because 3,500 teachers will stage a protest.

Homes aid group fears more poor tenants

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Council housing could become a "stigmatized and perhaps increasingly debt-ridden reservoir of bad housing for poor people" because of the Government's policy of selling council homes, the Catholic Housing Aid Society says in a report published today.

It says: "If high rents are combined with the right to buy over a long period it seems extremely likely that the effect will be to reduce substantially the proportion of households who are living above the poverty line in public sector housing."

Mr Andrew Friend, the author, believes that in that way the role of public housing in breaking the cycle of inequality will have been abandoned.

The sale of council homes would achieve some redistribution of wealth, the report concludes. But the redistribution which benefited some working class groups was being achieved at the expense of those less well housed, whose housing opportunities were reduced in direct relation to the increase of opportunity enjoyed by the purchasers.

"The purchasers of council housing are not those trapped in the cycle of poverty; those who will lose include a majority of those living on very low incomes," Mr Friend writes.

In the field of housing, the services provided by local authorities were mainly distributed according to need and disproportionately benefit low income groups, forming part of the "social wage," he says. "But if these assets are not replaced, the sum of that social wage so provided will decline, as will the standard of the service."

The report maintains that better housing is being sold while less desirable stock is being retained by local authorities.

It criticizes Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, for saying that sales showed a fair spread of properties. "This totally contradicts all the evidence," the report says.

Mr Friend, who had conducted surveys in different parts of the country, asserts that the social impact of sales will be particularly severe in rural areas.

They would "introduce an unpredictable element into a situation of extremely restricted supply, lead to a loss of relets in places where formidable barriers will prevent further council building, and have the general effect of further excluding lower income groups from the rural village."

A Giant Step Backwards—Council House Sales and Housing Policy (CHAS, 188a Old Brompton Road, London SW5 8AR; £2 to institutions and professionals, £1 to individuals and community groups).

'Cheapest' claim in grocery price war causes anger

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Advertising in the grocery price war has brought a complaint to the Advertising Standards Authority, provoked recriminations between big companies, and soured relationships between a market research agency and its retailer clients.

The advertisements were placed in national newspapers by the Asda group of stores, a subsidiary of Associated Dairies, when announcing price cuts at the end of January.

The advertisements reproduced a cutting from The Grocer, headed "Asda are cheapest," quoting findings from a shopping basket index prepared by Audit of Great Britain.

Competitors are indignant because Audit of Great Britain's surveys do not include all Asda's competitors. Notable omissions include Carrefour, Pricerite, Shoppers' Paradise, Kwik Save and Sainsbury's Sava Centres, several of which have proved cheaper than Asda in other comparative price surveys in the past.

Audit of Great Britain is also displeased because it does its surveys for subscribing retailers which are supplied with the results under copyright. The agency said it was embarrassing to see one client use the results against other clients.

Mr Tony de Angeli, the

editor of The Grocer, said: "We did not give permission for the cutting to be used in this sort of advertising campaign. We are a trade paper and wrote the story for our own readers, who know these things have to be taken with a pinch of salt. The story was supplied to us by Asda's publicity men."

Sainsbury said: "Our own price surveys show different results from the AGB figures which only relate to a selection of packaged groceries. Comparing supermarkets with local supermarkets is like comparing apples with oranges."

Carrefour said its hypermarkets competed with Asda stores in four areas. "If they are going to claim to be cheapest we would at least like to be included in the price comparison. We do not subscribe to the AGB reports, which do not claim to be comprehensive."

The Advertising Standards Authority said a complaint about the price claims in the Asda advertisements was being considered. Audit of Great Britain said: "This has caused a great deal of coming and going, but we do not think in this way are now likely to be repeated."

Asda said the company was formulating a response to the Advertising Standards Authority and did not wish to engage in "a sterile controversy."

Embarrassment of rules

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The Government's first regulations under the Consumer Safety Act, 1978, have been roundly panned, while local authorities responsible for enforcing them, were expressing doubts that they could cope with the flow of consumer protection legislation.

The regulations ban the sale of ornamental glitter lamps filled with solvents which can cause unconsciousness or fire, and of textile articles with the risk of coming into contact with skin which have been treated with "tris," a flame-retardant chemical now known to be carcinogenic.

Mr Christopher Rogers, chief trading standards officer for Westminster and an official for the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, said: "Trading standards authorities are already in difficulties."

"We are caught between government departments which say there must be cuts in expenditure, and others which keep churning out legislation."

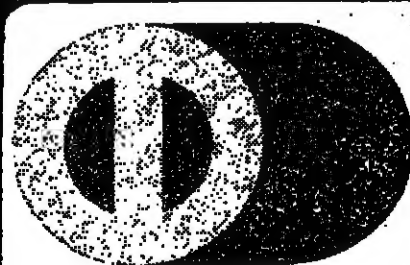
"New orders and regulations have been descending on us faster under this Government than they did under the last. We are also getting inundated with extra complaints because advice centres are closing and Citizens' Advice Bureaux can no longer cope."

YOU CAN TELL A GOOD COMPANY BY THE CARD IT KEEPS

The Diners Club Company Scheme makes good business sense. It streamlines financial administration and controls expenses by allowing your company to settle executives' expenses with one monthly cheque. It eases cash-flow problems by putting an end to the need for company floats and travellers cheques, allowing capital to be used more profitably.

The Diners Club Company Scheme is more economical than any other charge card scheme. And the more cardholders you have the more economical it becomes. For example, for five members it will cost you £9.30 per member for the first year and £7.30 thereafter. But for 20 members you only pay £4.25 per member for the first 12 months and £3.75 in following years. And Diners Club is the only one that gives you instant protection against liability if the card is lost for a nominal fee of 50p per card or £5 per company per annum. Plus acceptance without question in over 450,000 establishments and over 160 countries around the world.

A Diners Card. It tells your executives what you think of them as well as doing a lot for your company image. It does you credit. Send the coupon for more information about the Diners Club Company Scheme today.

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Address _____

Post the coupon today or ask your secretary to
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HOME NEWS

BBC says education broadcasts are not to suffer heavy cuts

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent
and Kenneth Gossling
Arts Reporter

The BBC denied yesterday that educational broadcasting would suffer cuts up to 50 per cent in its budget.

Mr Douglas Muggersidge, deputy managing director of radio, said: "Schools radio and continuing education radio will not be subject to a more disproportionate level of economies than other radio departments."

It is understood that the BBC's board of management decided at its meeting on Monday to reject proposals put forward by Mr Anthony Singer, managing director of radio, of a 50 per cent cut in continuing education radio in terms of air time, producers and resources, and an 18 per cent cut in school radio, or 40 minutes a day.

Mr Singer's proposals are outlined in a memorandum to heads of department in education broadcasting, drawn up by Mr Donald Gratton, controller of education broadcasting, and dated February 8. Their main objective was to reduce the amount of time during which Radio 4 was split into VHF and long wave.

By taking 40 minutes a day from school radio and absorbing the remaining 50 per cent continuing education into the main network, it was intended to reduce substantially the total hours of switching/dividing.

Very little money would be saved on the radio, Mr Gratton says, as the operational shifts had to be retained.

The managing director of television will meet heads of departments today to announce plans for cuts in the television services. Mr Gratton says in his memorandum that the indications were that educational departments would be nominated for cuts above the average.

The memorandum also states that Mr Singer has said that the position of education on local radio in the national regions "will inevitably be disadvantageously affected".

The proposals for cuts in educational broadcasting will be considered by the BBC board of governors at its meeting on Thursday next week, but a decision then is not thought likely.

The BBC's board of management last Monday endorsed the general proposition that percentage cuts in real terms for all programmes should be: network television 21; network radio 5; local radio 10; English regional TV 12; and national regions 7.

Mr Gratton's memorandum comments on an argument that because education in society at large is being severely pruned, similar cuts should apply to educational broadcasting.

It was also being said that the survival of the BBC depended upon its being successfully competitive with ITV and Independent Local Radio in the next decade. It was for that reason that the proposed percentage cut in network television was so low.

Against those arguments, however, there was a substantial one which related to the fundamental purpose and objectives of the BBC and its licence fee base in the public sector, Mr Gratton says.

It is certainly odd to see a situation in which a part of BBC educational broadcasting is threatened with a cut of 50 per cent when fourth television channels are likely to be required by franchisees to develop programming in precisely the same area, i.e. broad-based continuing education mainly of the non-formal sort.

The percentage of money spent on educational broadcasting had fallen over the years and was now about 2.8 of the total licence income.

TA likely to get £20m air defence missiles

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence is preparing to place a contract worth more than £20m for the purchase of additional Blowpipe anti-aircraft missiles for the Territorial Army (TA).

An Army source said last night that it signified the considerable importance being attached both to the TA and to the need to improve the Army's air defence capability.

Blowpipe, made by Short Brothers of Belfast, is a portable close-range missile in service with the regular Army, the TA and the Royal Marines. At present it is on issue to three Royal Artillery TA regiments, which together would supply 36 Blowpipe detachments to reinforce the British Army of the Rhine's forward areas in wartime.

The additional missiles will raise the number of detachments to 48, equivalent to a fourth regiment without increasing the number of regiments or their manpower.

The supply of Blowpipe missiles to the regular Army will not be affected by the decision, which in theory is still subject to suitable terms being negotiated with the manufacturer. Not the least of its benefits will be the guarantee of more work for Short Brothers "for a number of years".

The Government is anxious to use the TA because it seems a cost-effective way of adding to the capabilities of a small regular Army in wartime.

It has been encouraged by recent recruiting returns for the TA, which have shown an increase of about 2,500 men in the past four to five months.

Fear that prices link will cut pensions

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Government was accused yesterday of preparing to cut the weekly incomes of millions of pensioners, widows and disabled people as it cleared the first important hurdle in its attempt to end the earnings link for long-term benefits. After more than 16 hours of discussion, a vote of the Social Security Bill was approved by nine votes to eight in standing committee.

The clause, bitterly contested by Labour MPs for most of the first seven sittings of the committee, would change the basis for raising pensions and other long-term benefits from consideration of both earnings and prices to a link only with prices.

Mr Reg Freeman, Labour MP for Brent South, said that if the last Labour government had not introduced the "long overdue" link with earnings and prices in 1975, weekly pension payments would be up to £5 less.

The present Government had swindled pensioners of up to

£50 a week by refusing to make good the acknowledged shortfall in the November increase last year, he said. The clause would deprive pensioners, the injured and those on invalidity benefits of pounds every week.

"That is the intention of the Government and no amount of wessel words will hide the fact," Mr Freeman said.

The basic pension was still far too low, since it was below the poverty line and represented less than one third of average incomes. Present legislation would not increase the relationship of pensions to average earnings until at least the end of the 1980s, yet the Government had taken £195m from the poorest people by refusing to make good the shortfall.

Mr Reg Prentice, Minister for Social Security, strenuously denied that pensions had been cut or that the Labour Party had any monopoly of commonsense. Liberal, Labour and Conservative governments had

Replacement of health authority is challenged

By Frances Gibb

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, was challenged in the High Court yesterday about whether he acted unlawfully in appointing commissioners in place of a south London area health authority which overspent its allocated budget.

The five commissioners were appointed last summer after 35 members of Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham health authority voted to defy a government order to implement spending cuts.

The three London boroughs are asking Mr Justice Woolf whether the authority's overspending of its annual budget by £3.5m constituted an emergency under section 86 of the National Health Services Act, 1977, causing statutory health service to fail to be provided.

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, for the boroughs, said that in his opinion, the overspending, which amounted to 2.9 per cent of the authority's total £221.5m budget, did not represent such an emergency.

"At the time the secretary made his direction overspending in the National Health Service amounted to a total of some £100m, or 2.2 per cent of its total budget. So many areas must have been overspending."

But Mr Justice Woolf questioned the extent of his power in deciding whether an emergency had existed or not. "That is quite a task," he said.

Mr Blom-Cooper said it might be difficult, but the judge had before him most of the evidence and all the material that the Secretary of State had had before him when he decided the issue.

Mr Blom-Cooper said the Secretary of State had told the area health authorities in December 1978 to ensure that the following year they held spending to the 1977/78 level in real terms. No comparison was to be made for inflation as had been done previously, Mr Blom-Cooper said.

But the whole application of the cash-limit system to the National Health Service had no basis in law, he said.

Mr Jenkin himself acknowledged this fact in an affidavit to the court.

The area health authority concerned had a background of overspending, he said. It had overspent by £4.3m in 1978/79 but the previous Secretary of State had agreed in December 1978 that repayments should take place in the year 1980/81 and 1981/82.

But the area was unique among area health authorities, he said in that it contained three teaching hospitals: Guy's, King's College Hospital and St Thomas's.

Mr Roland Moyle, former Minister of Health, and MP for Lewisham, East, had said that the area was faced with "exceptionally difficult problems".

In deciding on July 30 not to implement certain recommendations for cuts, the area health authority had felt that such cuts would seriously damage the service to patients.

all extended the welfare state, he said, and the assumption of moral rectitude by Labour members was irritating.

He rejected the view that it was right to promise to do more by overspending. Public spending was the main motive power of inflation and pensioners were the main victims of inflation.

Pensions cost £9,800m a year, or 12 per cent of total public expenditure, Mr Prentice said. The pension was not good enough for those who received it, but the way to improve it was to improve the national economy. The solution was to have a growing and productive and to bring inflation under control.

"What we are saying is that pensioners are better served by simple and more modest requirements on the Government," Mr Prentice said.



Museum of Victoriana: Lady Rosse, former owner of 18 Stafford Terrace, Kensington, London, inspecting a Victorian fan there yesterday with Mr William Bell, chairman of the Greater London Council's historic buildings committee and Mr Hector Monro, Under-Secretary of State at the Department

of the Environment (right). The council has bought the house with the aid of a National Land Fund grant approved by the department and it will be run as a museum by the Victorian Society. The house's period contents include diaries of Edward Linley Sambourne, the Punch cartoonist.

Reprimand for chemist in girl's death case

The chemist who made up a pain-killing prescription that led to a child's death was reprimanded yesterday by the Pharmaceutical Society statutory committee, but remains on the society's register.

Mr Colin Doorbar, aged 35, wept as he was told by Sir Gordon Willmer, chairman of the committee, that he was being reprimanded for the death of a child.

Sir Gordon said that Mr Doorbar, who faced eight charges, including professional misconduct, was a first-class man in all other respects.

The hearing followed the death of Nicola Baickman, aged four, in June, 1977, after a dose of painkiller 46 times stronger than should have been given a child of her age after she complained of earache.

Mr Doorbar, of John Street, Worthington, alleged during the hearing that Nicola's family doctor, Dr Roland Fakes, had altered the prescription after the death so as to shift the blame on to him.

Mr Doorbar had asked him to return the prescription so that he could give it to the corner.

"Mr Doorbar said he was 'astounded' to find alterations in the prescription. He thought

Dr Fakes's alteration had tried to make the prescription look more like a normal dose.

Dr Fakes, who admitted that the prescription could have been misleading, was criticized by Sir Gordon yesterday.

"We unhesitatingly accept the evidence given by Mr Doorbar," Sir Gordon said. It is not necessary to say Dr Fakes was lying. It is only that his recollection failed him.

"We take an extremely poor view of the prescription he wrote, but that is not our business."

The inquiry was told that Mr Doorbar had failed to check the morphine content in the drug, Nephene, which Dr Fakes had ordered over the telephone.

Sir Gordon said that as an experienced pharmacist Mr Doorbar should have realized that the prescription was misleading and did not make sense.

It is the inescapable duty of the pharmacist to satisfy himself that there has been no mistake," Sir Gordon said.

Dispensing the prescription was done "in a moment of mental aberration. It was a serious fault. He was failing in the duty he owed to the public and the medical profession."

Equity olive branch to US

By Martin Huckerby
Theatre Reporter

The council of Equity, the actors' union, yesterday backed away from a battle with American Equity over that union's recent ban on British actors performing in the United States.

There has been a rising tide of opposition to the British on Broadway, where it is felt that imported performers and productions from Britain are jeopardizing opportunities for Americans.

Mr Peter Plouvier, the general secretary of Equity, said yesterday he believed a lot of people expected the British union to take its revenge by

keeping out more American performers.

However, the council has decided to make no substantial change in its policy. It simply said it wanted greater cooperation between the performers' unions in different countries, and added that it would not argue with foreign unions over the cases of particular British artists seeking permission to work abroad.

If that conciliatory move brings some similar response from the American unions, then British Equity would be grateful. Nevertheless, a previous attempt to improve relations with the three American unions for performers, when Equity officials went to New York last year, proved abortive.

Shetland dispute over ship pollution claim

From Ronald Faux
Lerwick

A dispute was developing last night between Shetland Islands Council and British Petroleum over a Greek oil tanker alleged to have caused pollution off the Shetland coast.

The incident is being regarded in Shetland as a legal test case of the council's power to control shipping, using the Sullom Voe oil terminal operated by BP.

Aerial photographs of the tanker, Mihalis, were taken by the council's pollution patrol, and showed the vessel with an oily wake less than two miles outside territorial waters north of Shetland. The tanker was bound for Sullom Voe to pick up 80,000 tonnes of crude oil.

Three marine and pollution officers on board the patrol aircraft made statements to the council that they were convinced the tanker was discharging ballast and contravening the regulations covering shipping using Sullom Voe.

The council immediately complained by telex to the ship's owners and the oil company that nominated her to pick up ballast. The council demanded that the nomination should be cancelled.

Mr Ernest Urquhart, the council's chief executive, said yesterday that BP had been informed by the Ministry of the Environment that it wished the nomination for the Mihalis to

continue, so that the tanker could load her cargo.

The council could not legally prevent the tanker from entering port, but Mr Urquhart made it clear that as the body responsible for pollution control and conservation, it would serve the Mihalis with a special direction under the Shetland Islands Council Act, 1974.

That would forbid the vessel from mooring, taking on cargo or discharging ballast within the harbour area.

BP's attitude is understood to be that the council is acting outside its powers because the Mihalis was beyond territorial waters when the alleged incident took place. Thus, it was up to the Department of Trade to say whether the vessel could enter and load.

Last night the tanker lay off Shetland and the master attempted to contact the American operators by radio.

It is understood that the master of the Mihalis, which has used Sullom Voe without trouble at least twice before, has said the vessel was steaming through an existing oil slick when the patrol photographed her.

Dr John Harris, manager of the Sullom Voe terminal, said BP did not have the authority to cancel the tanker's nomination on the ground of pollution. Murphy Oil, an exploration company, holds the Shetland Islands Council responsible for the costs of delaying the Mihalis.

Animal 'liberators' freed battery hens

From Arthur Osman
Soulbury

Members of the so-called Animal Liberation Front (ALF) told police that the theft of battery hens for release on free-range farms was an act of compassion, magistrates at Solihull, West Midlands, were told yesterday.

Mr Lester Skusek, appearing for the defence of three women and two men, said that at one farm in the Shirley area of Solihull "thousands of chickens are crammed into very small cages; with five or six chickens in 18in by 9in cages."

"Apparently hens in this condition turn to cannibalism and inflict injuries on themselves and on other hens," he said. "They also develop a disease called 'leg weakness'."

He said ALF had strict rules about the ways hens were made on battery-hen houses, no violence was to be used; no member was to make any financial gain; and no animals could be taken for which homes could not be found.

Before the court were Mr David Carroll, aged 42, of Turves Green Road, Northfield, Birmingham; Mr Anthony Christopher Boyson, aged 17, of Eastham Road, Billesley, Birmingham; Mrs Christine Smith, aged 30, of Webb Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham; Miss Susan Forester, aged 25, of Hurlingham Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham; and Miss Virginia Rowe, aged 18, of Stafford Street, Bath, Hayes, Camock, Staffordshire.

Mr Carroll, described as the leader, pleaded guilty to burglary by entering Meadow Farm, Solihull, and stealing 120 battery hens worth £270; committing criminal damage to 16,000 eggs, fittings and cages worth £280; stealing 300 hens worth £600 from Box Trees Farm, Solihull; and causing criminal damage to 130 cages and fittings and four dozen eggs worth £116.

The court heard of four other offences, involving the theft of 18 dogs, 84 hens and 11 chickens to be considered. He admitted two previous similar convictions, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, suspended for two years consecutively to 18 months consecutively on the first two charges,

and a similar concurrent sentence on the last two charges, ordered to pay £1,367.50 compensation to contribute £50 to legal aid costs.

The other defendants admitted burglary at Meadow Farm and Miss Bates admitted causing criminal damage there.

Mr Boyson, who asked for one other offence of burglary involving the theft of 18 dogs at Fell, Staffordshire, was fined £100, ordered to pay £32 compensation and was bound over for 12 months.

Mrs Smith and Miss Forester were each fined £50, ordered to pay £2 compensation each and similarly bound over. Miss Bates, who asked for two other offences of burglary involving the theft of 18 dogs, was fined a total of £150, ordered to pay £528 compensation, bound over for 12 months and to make a £20 contribution to legal aid costs.

Mr Robert Lambden, for the prosecution, said the battery-hen houses had been broken into at night and the chickens were put into crates and taken to a free-range farm in south Warwickshire.

Mr Boyson had said in a statement that it was done "to stop the exploitation of animals with violence". Miss Bates said that she also smashed trays of eggs and unplugged a deep-freeze containing a large quantity of meat.

Miss Forester said the hens were kept in atrocious conditions. "I am not ashamed of my action. The callous kind of people who keep them purely to make money out are wrong. It was an act of compassion."

Mr Skusek said that Mrs Smith had informed local authorities about the battery houses, but nothing had been done.

The farmer to whom the hens had been given had accepted them in good faith; most had since been recovered.

All the defendants had given an assurance that their court appearance meant an end to such actions.

The theft of dogs took place because it was claimed that a woman took in strays and then had them put down to sell for processing as agricultural manure. Homes had been found for them.

Farmers urge withdrawal from EEC farm policy

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers yesterday attacked the working of EEC farm policy and said that British agriculture should withdraw from it. A motion adopted unanimously at the annual meeting of the National Farmers' Union in London said that "national support measures should now be considered".

Such measures are opposed by Community authorities because they make the free trade principle of the EEC impossible to operate. They strike at the foundations of the EEC. The willingness of British farmers to contemplate them illustrates their deep disenchantment with the impact of the common agricultural policy on the United Kingdom.

Delegates accepted a call from South Wales that farmers should be safeguarded against a possible collapse of the EEC price support system which pays for the purchase and storage of food "mountains".

The appeal was supported by Mr Donald Sward, of Alton, Hampshire, who said: "Now is the time for the NFU with our national government to prepare a contingency plan."

The meeting was the eighth annual gathering of the NFU since British accession to the Community and the first at which members despaired of the common agricultural policy.

Mr Patrick Russell, of Pembroke, said that Britain was barred from selling lamb in France while French potatoes competed here with home-grown produce. "It is a one-way traffic and we must take

steps to retaliate," he said. "It is not *entente cordiale*, but *entente misérable*."

Mr Timothy Boswell, who farms in Northampton, declared: "The CAP has created in a mass of more-or-less shoddy expedients just to keep the show on the road."

Mr John Dunster, who grows chrysanthemums in Avon, said: "We know that a large number of countries ignore the regulations and that a large number have hidden subsidies."

Leaders of the union were being remote and ineffectual. Mr James Marshall, vice-chairman of the West Riding of Yorkshire county branch, said: "The union should become more aggressive in the Brussels office."

Delegate accepted by a narrow margin a complaint about issues which are decided without consultation or for which insufficient time is given for further consideration."

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, asked the annual dinner of the union last night: "Can we genuinely say that the standard of food in this country is now very high?" He wondered if British companies paid enough attention to tastes abroad when producing food for export.

"Pickles, I am told, are steeped in a stuff called 'brewed condiment'," he said. "I am sure it is an acquired taste. Nothing can beat the stuff we produce on our own farms, but too often it is spoiled by what gets to the carter."

Lord Carrington owns several farms and has been a member of the NFU for more than 30 years.

Union challenge on parents' school repairs

A union is taking legal advice to stop parents doing repairs at schools.

Mr John Dempsey, area officer of the National Union of Public Employees, said the union wanted to know whether Cheshire County Council was in breach of the Health and Safety at Work Act by encouraging parents to carry out repair and maintenance jobs.

He said he had been told that a council circular advised parent-teacher associations that parents can carry out maintenance and repairs.

A council official said: "We face cuts amounting to £2.5m in the coming year on education. We have not asked parents to do anything, but in many cases they volunteer for things like painting, decorating and minor repairs."

"Heads have been asked to ensure that stringent conditions are met. There must be insurance against injury or damage."

£10,000 margarine haul
A lorry and trailer carrying margarine arrived in London yesterday from a transport cage at Carnock, Staffordshire.

Children die in fire
Two children died when fire swept through their home in Priesthill Road, Glasgow, yesterday. Peter Curran, aged three, and his brother David, aged two, were trapped in an upstairs room.

Bishop's Olympic boycott move rejected in synod

By Our Religious Affairs
Correspondent

An attempt to have the General Synod of the Church of England endorse a boycott of the Moscow Olympic Games came to nothing yesterday.

The senior bishop present, the Bishop of London, the Rt Rev Gerald Ellison, declined to give the Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Rev David Sheppard, permission to remove an emergency motion.

Dr Ellison said he thought it would be wrong for the synod to debate such a serious matter without a background paper in front of it, and without the Archbishop of Canterbury present.

Gunnery accused 'comfortable' of murder

Gunner Neil Wallace, aged 21, of Number 7 Commando Battery, HMS Concord, Arbroath, Scotland, whose home is at West Hagley, near Stourbridge, West Midlands, and Gunner James Pitter, aged 22, of 29 Commando Regiment, Plymouth, whose home is at Rochford, Essex, appeared at Plymouth yesterday.

They were remanded in custody until February 18 charged with killing Thomas Pierpoint, of River View Lane,

Rescue woman 'comfortable'

Mrs Sandra Bannen, who was badly burnt when she tried unsuccessfully to rescue her four children and their baby-sitter from her blazing home on Monday, was said to be comfortable in hospital yesterday.

Mrs Bannen, aged 30, of Pileworth Square, Pennywell, Sunderland, was treated in hospital at Shotley Bridge, co Durham.

Light on Ulster suspects' response to arrest 'Silence' advice for Catholics

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Father Denis Faul, one of Northern Ireland's most persistent human rights campaigners, has produced the latest of a long series of leaflets giving practical advice to local Roman Catholics.

It gives a clear and explicit insight into how ordinary working-class Catholics are being encouraged to respond to police and army activity. One of its principal messages is that people arrested under the emergency laws should keep silent after giving their name and their solicitor's name.

The leaflet, which, according to some lawyers, is not correct in all its advice, suggests that questions should be answered in writing or not at all.

It is this "right of silence" to all but the most basic questions that is frustrating the Army and police, and is leading to mounting political pressure for a change in the law to make it illegal for persons held under emergency legislation to remain silent.

Father Faul, a Dunsannon teacher who has unequivocally condemned violence, says he has made 700 complaints to the Royal Ulster Constabulary, 200

to the Army and 100 to the Ulster Defence Regiment on behalf of Roman Catholics.

"The people I am talking about are low income groups, probably unemployed, probably of fairly low educational standards."

This, summarized, is his advice:

"It is important for every Catholic parent to instruct their sons and daughters regarding the names of the solicitor and doctor to ask for if they are arrested under the emergency laws."

"Instruct your children not to speak, to maintain silence until they have the nominated solicitor or doctor with them, usually after 48 hours."

"In every case give your name and your solicitor's name and keep silent."

"Do not sign your name to any bit of paper while in an RUC station you are advised to by the solicitor of your choice."

"Always have a medical examination before leaving the interrogation centre and/or at the special court by a doctor of your choice or your family's. This should be arranged by your solicitor."

"Ignore all documents presented to you as confessions of your friends implicating you. These are usually forgeries."

"When your car is being searched, lock it and say: 'Which part do you want to search first? Accompany the uniformed man and unlock the boot, then lock it, unlock the car and bonnet in turn, locking each section in turn.'

"If you dislike the way you are being treated you have the right to be searched in the nearest RUC station."

Mr Jenkins tells EEC to stop its squabbling

OVERSEAS

Two-day artillery bombardment marks end of the shaky ceasefire in southern Lebanon

From Christopher Walker
Dir Mimas, Lebanon, Feb 12

Two days of concentrated artillery bombardment in southern Lebanon have signalled the final collapse of the shaky ceasefire negotiated by the United Nations last August between the Israeli-backed Christian militia and Major Saad Haddad and the Palestinian guerrilla forces.

The sudden renewal of serious hostilities between the two irregular armies has greatly increased the instability in the border region. It has also raised again the possibility of Israeli intervention on behalf of the minority Christian community living in the area.

Last week Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, promised military support for the Christians in all parts of Lebanon. Since the fighting broke out in the south, he has been under strong pressure from Major Haddad to honour that pledge.

Tension between the Christians and Palestinians has been heightened by Israeli military sources confirming a report that the Palestine Liberation Organization has received a number of Soviet-built T34 tanks from Syria. Although they are an elderly model, the Israelis fear that they could have a significant effect on the strategic balance in southern Lebanon.

Throughout much of last night and most of this morning, the sound of cannon, mortar and heavy artillery fire came from the rugged south Lebanon hills.

I was among a small group of journalists permitted to enter the battle zone this morning through the so-called "good fence" which divides Israel from southern Lebanon, and which became a regular target for Palestinian attacks aimed at deterring the 1,500 Lebanese who crossed every day to work in Israel.

After an hour spent driving on roads which lie in the shadow of the Palestinian gun emplacement built into the former crusader stronghold of Beaufort Castle, we were turned back by our Israeli escort officers. "The shelling is so

heavy that it would be suicide to go on", one told us.

The bulk of Palestinian fire was being directed at the town of Marjayoun, which houses the headquarters of Major Haddad's 3,000-strong private army. Christian militiamen, dressed in Israeli uniforms and often using Israeli ammunition, were replying from their own fixed gun positions and from mobile mortars firing from different points in the thick olive groves.

For the second day running all schools in the area were shut and many farmers and their labourers were unable to go out in the fields. In many of the Christian villages the inhabitants looked harassed after spending a second night with little sleep. "Surely there must be somebody who can help us escape from the danger," said George Rabbani, a schoolgirl, aged 16, who spoke to us in broken French. "Please tell them there are hundreds of children here who are too scared to leave their homes. They are exhausted by the explosions and they want all this to end."

In Dir Mimas, a Christian village with 1,500 inhabitants, we were shown the first evidence of how the latest increase in fighting began at dawn yesterday. Four of the hillside houses had been wrecked by explosive charges placed against their outside walls during the night. The body bags had been planted by a Palestinian squad which had waded across the nearby Litani River and walked more than a mile to plant them.

It was while rescuers were trying to help a man who lost his leg when the body bags exploded that three of yesterday's four civilian casualties occurred—the highest toll in 24 hours experienced in southern Lebanon for more than a year. The two men and a woman were killed, the man trapped under rubble when a shell hit them, one villager said. "They all died almost immediately."

One of those killed was Mr Roger Ghannouch, an announcer from the Voice of Hope, the American-financed radio station which broadcasts a bizarre mix

of Bible readings, pro-Haddad propaganda and country music from studios in the village.

Mr Ghannouch presented a weekly programme in Arabic and also worked in his spare time as a hospital volunteer. Today, details of his funeral were announced amid the station's regular gospel sessions and bland selection of songs carefully vetted to exclude any mention of sex, drink or drugs.

Israeli officers claimed that the individual sabotage attacks against civilian houses were a new tactic to intimidate the Christian villagers. The Israelis were also able to show that the terror squad must have passed within close range of an outpost manned by Nepalese soldiers from the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil).

The Israeli claim that the number of Palestinian terrorists now operating from inside the Unifil controlled area is 700—an increase of about 200 since the last ceasefire came into force on August 25 last year.

Angry villagers in Dir Mimas were working today to patch up the damage to their homes caused by the explosions and subsequent five-hour artillery bombardment.

As well as being directed against the Palestinians, the fury of the villagers was also aimed at the Israelis who they accused of failing to hit back at the guerrillas—particularly those based in Beaufort Castle, which towers over the small village from across the valley.

Privately the Israelis claim that only an attack mounted on foot would have any effect against the ancient fortification of the castle, which has been a threat to the area by the Palestinians since "free Lebanon" was set up.

By tonight the question of response, if any, the Israelis will make to the renewed clashes in south Lebanon remains unclear. But whatever demands are coming from the Christian community, there is known to be strong international pressure for Israel to resist the temptation to make any further military incursions across the border.

East block alerted for Western wedge

From Dossa Trevisan
Warsaw, Feb 12

An indication that Moscow now expects its East European allies to tighten discipline and speak with one voice was provided today by Mr Mikhail Suslov, a senior member of the Soviet Politburo. The hard-line party theorist called upon the people of East Europe to close their ranks and accused the West of trying to use every possible means to drive a wedge between the Warsaw Pact states.

Mr Suslov, the first foreign delegate to speak at the Polish Communist Party congress which opened yesterday, warned his country's allies against a possible threat from the United States and China.

"The West," he said, "is trying to use every means it can to undermine the solidarity of the socialist countries." This made it more imperative than ever to "strengthen our lines".

This suggests that Moscow is satisfied with the kind of backing it has received from its East European allies for its intervention in Afghanistan. With the exception of Romania, the countries of Eastern Europe lacked the military action with varying degrees of enthusiasm.

Subsequent support was given by East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, while Poland and Hungary were lukewarm and even ambiguous in their support.

Mr Suslov is the last survivor of the Stalinist leadership and his presence at the congress is seen as an indication of the tough line which Moscow is now taking.

Yesterday, Mr Edward Giersek offered to host East-West talks to defuse growing tension in Europe, which he said, was threatening peace.

Yesterday, Mr Suslov, while warning against a return to the status quo, took a tougher stand, condemning the United States and accusing it of working in collusion with China.

"The American decision to concentrate forces near the Iranian border," he said, "is not incidental. It was a deliberate, planned policy to check progress among developing nations."

Poland is clearly worried by the present international situation. So are other countries of the Soviet block, all of which have enjoyed more room for manoeuvre because of détente.

The economic aspects of détente are of particular importance as East European countries, who are suffering from slower growth rates and need to boost productivity through imports of Western technology.

In order to obtain this they need continuing access to Western money and markets. Poland is in a particularly weak position as its debt is now believed to total \$200m.

Poland will also have to import at least 6 million tons of grain from the United States.

The Liberal lead over the Conservatives has dropped from 10 to 20 points and is still falling. Because they will win huge majorities in Quebec they could still lose the election though winning more votes than the Conservatives.

No wonder Mr Cosgrove is worried.

The constituency is York-Scarborough, in the north-west of the Toronto agglomeration. It always has gone with the party that won the elections.

It turned out the Liberals in a by-election in October, 1978, and confirmed the victorious Conservative, Mr Paul McCrossan, last May.

He is small, dark and energetic, an accountant who enjoys explaining the Government's fiscal policies and the budgetary inequities of the Liberals.

The two men attended a meeting in a school last night, along with four other candidates, and argued politely over who was most responsible for the Conservative defeat.

Behind the microphone, Mr Cosgrove radiates confidence. He used to be the Mayor of Scarborough and boasts of the area's economic expansion for which he takes credit, along with Mr Trudeau and the former Liberal Government.

An unkind questioner asked him why he denounced Mr Clark for not solving the energy crisis, when Mr Trudeau had presided over the same crisis for six years without doing anything about it.

He explained patiently that the Liberals had indeed done something about it. They had introduced an excise tax, 10



Leonid Kozlov and his wife, Valentina, former Bolshoi ballet stars who defected last September, rehearse with the Milwaukee ballet for a performance there last night.

Undecided voters hold Toronto in balance

From Patrick Brogan
Toronto, Feb 12

"I've never known an election so volatile," Mr Paul Cosgrove said anxiously. He is a mild looking lawyer, with receding hair and glasses and is running as a Liberal in one of Toronto's marginals.

The opinion polls put the party well ahead of the Conservatives, and the Liberal polls have an excellent reputation for getting things right.

But a third or more of those asked say that they are still undecided a week before the vote.

Last May the "undecided" turned out to be Pierre Trudeau, who had been Prime Minister since 1968, because they were tired of him.

They did not, however, give the Conservatives a majority: they won 136 of the 282 seats in the House of Commons.

Mr Joe Clark became Prime Minister and, within seven months according to the polls, people were tired of him, too.

So the Opposition, Liberals and New Democratic Party (NDP) together, brought down the Government. The Liberals hope to get a majority in Parliament this time, but the electorate appears to be flying off again.

The Liberal lead over the Conservatives has dropped from 10 to 20 points and is still falling. Because they will win huge majorities in Quebec they could still lose the election though winning more votes than the Conservatives.

No wonder Mr Cosgrove is worried.

The constituency is York-Scarborough, in the north-west of the Toronto agglomeration. It always has gone with the party that won the elections.

It turned out the Liberals in a by-election in October, 1978, and confirmed the victorious Conservative, Mr Paul McCrossan, last May.

He is small, dark and energetic, an accountant who enjoys explaining the Government's fiscal policies and the budgetary inequities of the Liberals.

The two men attended a meeting in a school last night, along with four other candidates, and argued politely over who was most responsible for the Conservative defeat.

Behind the microphone, Mr Cosgrove radiates confidence. He used to be the Mayor of Scarborough and boasts of the area's economic expansion for which he takes credit, along with Mr Trudeau and the former Liberal Government.

An unkind questioner asked him why he denounced Mr Clark for not solving the energy crisis, when Mr Trudeau had presided over the same crisis for six years without doing anything about it.

He explained patiently that the Liberals had indeed done something about it. They had introduced an excise tax, 10

cents (about 4p) on a gallon of petrol, four years ago. It is now 7 cents a gallon.

But did not the Liberals and the NDP bring down the Clark government for introducing an 18 cent excise tax on petrol in last December's budget? Yes, indeed, but that was different.

Other speakers were more direct. The candidate of the Marxist-Leninist Party said: "Make the rich pay for the crisis, not the poor." The Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada will be buried; kick the United States imperialists out of Canada." He also denounced "the Soviet social-imperialist invasion of Afghanistan", all in a most amiable and gentle tone.

The meeting of about 50 people listened to him politely. He is a large and harmless postal worker. Indeed, there was hardly any applause for anyone, and the only animation was achieved when Mr McCrossan and Mr Cosgrove argued over the price of petrol.

It was a very tranquil meeting for a key marginal in an important election.

The NDP candidate is Mr Vic Overend. The NDP claims to be socialist, and is certainly much closer to the British Labour Party than any other significant party in North America.

The Liberals to bring down the Clark government because it believed that it stood a real chance of substantially increasing its vote, particularly in the west and Ontario.

The election will be decided here. Ontario has 95 seats out of 282 in Parliament, and in the last election the Liberals lost 32, the Conservatives gained 32 and the NDP lost two. There were 11 extra seats for the Conservatives because of its increased population.

Now it may be that in the industrial towns of South Ontario, like Hamilton and London, the NDP may at last make its breakthrough to glory, but there are signs of any such thing in Scarborough.

Mr Overend did his best, a faithful plaque in the audience fed him appropriate questions, but he seemed to have no more effect on the audience than the Marxist-Leninist of the woman independent who confessed: "I'm not all that experienced, but I have a keen mind."

Mr McCrossan won by 5 per cent last May, a matter of 4,000 votes out of nearly 80,000. This is what worries Mr Cosgrove, the Liberal.

Although the electorate of Scarborough has been called to the polls three times in 16 months they will turn out again next Monday as numerous as ever, and all those "undecideds" may yet give Mr McCrossan, and Mr Clark, a second chance.

Mrs Gandhi criticizes Soviet interference

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, Feb 12

Mrs Gandhi today told Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, that Moscow's interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs was "inadmissible". Mr Gromyko was opening talks here aimed at inducing this country to accept the Soviet line.

But when, after three hours of talks between the Indian Prime Minister and the Soviet leader, an Indian delegation spokesman was asked if India had directly asked for a withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan he denied that this had been broached today.

He twice told reporters that the withdrawal question would come up in discussions scheduled for tomorrow. In these Mr Gromyko will be dealing with Indian officials under Mr Narasimha Rao, the External Affairs Minister.

The discussions had been in general terms today, the spokesman declared. But both Governments had agreed to consider "measures by which the tension in the region can be diffused".

The spokesman indicated that the Indian position given to Mr Gromyko today was based on the joint Indo-French statement issued during the visit to Delhi last month of President Giscard d'Estaing when India adopted the word "inadmissible" for the first time.

Added to this are the statements made a fortnight ago by Mr Rao in Parliament which "categorically" opposed the presence of foreign troops in any country and expressed India's "hope" that the Russians would be withdrawn from Afghanistan.

Mrs Gandhi insisted on measures to reduce tension in the region when she saw Mr Clark Clifford, President Carter's special envoy, at the end of last month. This follows her view that India and the region must strive to avoid super power rivalries.

Mr Gromyko, tried to leave Mrs Gandhi's office by a side-door but reporters caught up with him only to have him make general remarks about developing Indo-Soviet friendship, something "the entire Soviet leadership" was convinced meets the interest of peace in the Asian region.

The Indian side said that the Russians made no specific proposals of their own during the talks on Afghanistan today.

Mrs Gandhi, for her part, was equally elusive with the reporters, saying only that her talks with Mr Gromyko were "as usual, frank". Apparently she took some time to review events with Mr Gromyko whom she had not seen since before her defeat in the March 1977 general elections.

Mr Gromyko was also informed of the consultations Delhi has been having with Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan—which Nepal to follow next week—which have been aimed at evolving a regional response to the threat of super power confrontation on their doorsteps.

The Indians have been cautious in public about this initiative, but they indicated to the Russians today that the kind of reactions they obtained could be highly significant.

One of the main points made to Pakistan was to emphasize how undesirable it would be to supply the Afghan Muslim insurgents with arms and allow them sanctuary on this side of the Durand line.

This position comes somewhere near the Soviet and Afghan emphasis on the need to maintain Soviet troops in that country so long as it is subject to the risk of armed incursions from Pakistan or China.

The Indian spokesman denied that Mr Gromyko discussed Karmuchas that all countries of this region are members of the non-aligned movement when he addressed Mr Gromyko at a dinner tonight. Calling for the "strictest restraint" by the countries of the region, and by outside powers, Mr Rao asked for India and its neighbours to "be permitted to live in peace and amity without being dragged into a confrontation".

Recent developments in the area "have caused us much concern", he added, "their first effect has been to threaten the stability of the region".

Mr Gromyko's arrival in Delhi today provoked two demonstrations, one of them involving about 250 Afghans and Indians in front of the Soviet Embassy, to protest against the Soviet intervention, the other, a small demonstration, by Afghan students at the airport.

This did not prevent Mr Gromyko from saying, in a hurried speech, that Indo-Soviet friendship was based on common sense and not subject to mere passing "emotions"—presumably a veiled reference to protests throughout the world at the Soviet action in Afghanistan.

Pakistan and the emergence of Bangladesh.

Few here believe that its results will bring any relief to the Afghan situation as it affects Pakistan in spite of a recent message from Mrs Gandhi to President Zia ul-Haq seeking to reassure Islamabad of Indian sympathy in the present situation.

Lieutenant-General Fazle Haq, Governor of the North West Frontier province, is reported to have said in Peshawar today that a provincial cabinet would be set up next month.

Hand-picked provincial cabinets and advisory councils are being set up as substitutes to representative governments and assemblies which were abolished two-and-a-half years ago by General Zia when he removed Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, from power.

The country has since been under martial law. Three other provinces are also likely to have provincial cabinets and advisory councils next month.

Widow complaints: Mrs Nurat Bhutto, the widow of the late Prime Minister and daughter-in-law, is reported to have petitioned the Sindh High Court that they have been deprived of the services of their cook and sweeper in their home in Larkana.

Both women are under detention and their lawyers said the Bhutto home had been turned into a virtual prison. The court which is hearing their constitutional petition against martial law and their detention, decided to consider the complaint next Monday.

Oman allows US forces to use its bases

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 12

The Sultanate of Oman on the eastern corner of the Arabian Peninsula has agreed in principle to allow the United States to use its military facilities in an emergency. But it is not yet clear whether two other countries, Somalia and Kenya, where Washington has been seeking similar arrangements for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, are willing to be as helpful.

The New York Times reported today that all three countries had indeed agreed to give American forces access to existing bases during recent discussions with Mr Reginald Bartholomew, director of politico-military affairs at the State Department. Mr Bartholomew returned to Washington today from a tour which included stops in Oman, Kenya, and Somalia, as well as Saudi Arabia.

In return for agreement to use the military facilities, the New York Times said, the United States was ready to provide unspecified amounts of military aid. A senior administration aide was quoted by the newspaper as welcoming the re-

ported agreements as "the beginning of a significant reversal of the strategic decline in that part of the world".

Answering questions from reporters today, officials at the Oman Embassy in Washington said that their Government had agreed to provide refuelling and storage facilities for American military forces on the island of Masira. They added, however, that no formal agreement had yet been concluded. Officials at the Kenyan and Somali embassies here could neither confirm nor deny the account in the New York Times of their governments' positions.

American Administration officials have been equally circumspect. Mr Harold Brown, the Secretary of Defense, told a television interviewer, he was hopeful that access agreements with the countries concerned would be concluded. Mr Edward Hidalgo, the Navy Secretary, said he thought there was nothing "definitive" yet.

A State Department spokesman said Mr Bartholomew's talks had been "useful" but declined to comment further until the results of his negotiations had been studied further.

Military deal agreed with Saudi Army

By Our Defence Correspondent

Britain has completed a deal, thought to be worth a total of about £100m to supply support equipment for artillery to the Saudi Arabian Army.

The deal comprises four separate contracts involving 12 British companies, and the equipment will be supplied within the next two years.

Negotiations have been continuing for the past 12 months between the Saudis and the British Government agency, International Military Services (IMS).

Neither the Ministry of Defence nor IMS would confirm the value or the content of the contracts last night. It is understood however that the artillery equipment does not include any guns.

The 35,000-strong Saudi Arabian Army has a mixture of American, French and British equipment. But most of its artillery is French, so the latest deal represents something of a breakthrough for the British arms industry.

Six charged with plotting to murder Israeli governor

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Feb 12

Three West Bank Arabs were indicted in a military court in Nablus yesterday for alleged membership of a terrorist cell which plotted to murder the military governor of Jenin.

According to the charge sheet, Khalid Kamil, aged 29, and two other men, who were named, were to have carried out the murder at an official ceremony in Qabatiya, their village near Jenin. They allegedly planned to dose the guests' coffee with sleeping pills and then trigger the explosion which would pick up water in Jenin for a military camp nearby.

Mr Kamil was alleged to have obtained orders from an Al Fatah official on visits to Damascus in March and June last year.

In another case yesterday, three Arabs were imprisoned for 18 years for plotting to shoot down an El Al airliner in Nablus by missile in 1975. The trial, before a military court in Lydda, was in camera. The names and nationalities of the accused, the manner of their capture, and the details of their transfer to Israel, remained a secret.

Two German nationalists, Thomas Reuter and Brigitta Schultz, who were involved in the plot, pleaded guilty in September and were sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment. The West German Government has demanded representation to Israel and it is believed that they will be released in a few months.

The Supreme Court of Jerusalem yesterday upheld a six-year prison sentence on Ian Beder, aged 24, of New Zealand, for passing secret information to an Egyptian intelligence officer.

Mr Beder spent a year in Israel and left in August, 1971. He approached the Egyptian Embassy in Madrid and provided information on the Israeli secret services.

Mr Farhang said Iran would welcome the international commission that Dr Waldheim has proposed to investigate Iranian grievances.

Third, he said, Iran would accept an international resolution proclaiming the Shah a common criminal. Such a resolution could be adopted by the General Assembly by a simple majority and it would not be necessary for the United States to vote for it.

Meanwhile, fierce fighting raged in the town of Gonbad Karu in north-east Iran, as Revolutionary Guards backed by arm y troops moved in to crush a rebellion by minority Turkmen guerrillas that had lasted four days, local residents said.

AP Agence France Presse and Reuter.

Ayatollah tells Moscow it must respect the independence of Iran

Tehran, Feb 12.—Ayatollah Khomeini today emphasized to Mr Brezhnev the need for the Soviet Union to forswear any policy of non-aggression in the Third World and Islamic countries, "above all in this region".

In a telegram to Mr Brezhnev, the Ayatollah added that safeguards for world peace required respect for the territorial integrity of other countries.

He was responding to a telegram from Mr Brezhnev sent on the first anniversary of the Iranian revolution.

In Geneva, Mr Mansour Farhang, Iran's Ambassador to the United Nations, said that the militants holding the American Embassy in Tehran were beginning "to lose credibility with the Iranian people".

Mr Farhang, in an interview with the Associated Press, said the militants "had gone beyond their task".

Mr Sadegh Ootabadeh, the Foreign Minister, said that he hoped the crisis over the hostages would soon be ended. Iran would cooperate with Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, to solve it.

Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the President, has said that Iran no longer demands the return of the Shah as the price for releasing the 50 hostages.

Mr Farhang, in turn, said today: "The first thing we want is a genuine apology by the United States for its deceptive and exploitative policies in Iran over the last 25 years", he said.

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AP Agence France Presse and Reuter.

Iranians press Whitehall for Chieftain spares

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

An Iranian military team have just left Whitehall after discussions in which they have possible resumption of arms sales to Tehran. They want spares and ammunition for existing equipment, particularly for the 900 Chieftain tanks, procured for their Army during the Shah's regime.

But they are also interested in reviving an order for armoured recovery vehicles, if only to carry out engine changes on crippled Chieftains, some of which have been abandoned in isolated locations since the revolution more than a year ago.

It is understood to be the third series of arms talks between the two governments during the past nine months, reflecting the Iranian Government's ambition to rebuild its shattered forces as a counter both to internal opposition and external aggression.

One of the difficulties has been the many changes in Iranian personnel. Whitehall officials have found themselves talking to a different team on each occasion, with little continuity.

So far the Foreign Office has not become involved because there has been no draft contract for it to approve—or otherwise. This has been just as well, but the Government could hardly approve the supply of ammunition to Iran while the American hostages are still kept prisoner in their embassy.

On the other hand, relations between Iran and the United States are showing signs of a thaw. If the hostages are released quickly and safely, the resumption of supplies to Tehran, if only on a limited scale, might once more become acceptable within the next 12 months.

Under the Shah, Iranian sales accounted for about a tenth of the annual arms export industry in Britain, now running at about £1,100m. Orders for vehicle-mounted Rapier anti-

aircraft missiles from British Aerospace and for 1,300 advanced tanks from the Royal Ordnance Factories (ROF), were among those cancelled by Ayatollah Khomeini soon after his assumption of power. The ROF did not lose hard cash on the deal because money had already been paid by the Shah to finance the production lines, which had to be established.

The chief problem for the Government has been the loss of work for the ROF, which lost 800 jobs with the cancellation of the Iranian order. This has to some extent been eased by a recent contract to build 350 tanks for the Jordanian Army.

The British Army is also considering the procurement of 200 Challenger tanks, with modern Challenger armour and a new Rolls-Royce engine, to help fill the gap before MBT80, the main successor to Chieftain, enters service in the late 1980s.

Arms sales, which expanded steadily throughout the 1970s, seem now to have reached a

plateau, from which they are unlikely to rise very far unless the lucrative Iranian market is reopened, or new customers can be found elsewhere, perhaps in countries which until now have been regarded with reserve by the Foreign Office.

China is the most obvious market to be explored. So far British arms sales to China have been small. Three contracts have been signed, one worth £500,000 for night vision equipment, another £1m order for field artillery computer equipment, and a third £1,200,000 contract for Cymbeline mortar locating units.

But Chinese interest in the Harrier jet has waned—and sources believe it was always exaggerated anyway. The Chinese are most interested in buying Western expertise to help them establish their own high technology arms industry.

Even for this, however, they need more foreign exchange than they have. They are likely to ask for generous credit arrangements.

OVERSEAS

Caste-ridden society leaves Indian police free to rape and beat

From Richard Wigg

Delhi, Feb 12. Outbreaks of caste violence in two "Hindi belt" states in North India, where cows are sacred but human life is cheap, underline the force of the latest annual report of the Indian Commission of Caste Discrimination, just made public here.

Not a single state, it reveals, has undertaken the survey to identify the potential caste trouble spots as the preliminary task under the Protection of Civil Rights Act of 1976.

Everything waits until fanatic mobs of either higher caste Hindus or "untouchables" (formerly untouchables) kill, rape, pillage or burn down the homes of their opponents.

Afterwards, should there be a sufficient outcry, the police will send in armed patrols, which are subsequently withdrawn until the next trouble spot erupts to the equal surprise of the authorities.

These commissions have all been starkly highlighted by the latest bout of caste violence in two villages, Narainpur in Uttar Pradesh and Paraspur in neighbouring Bihar.

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, last week visited the village where the provincial armed constabulary, mostly drawn from the higher castes, flagrantly beat and raped village women to "punish" them over an incident in which an elderly village woman was killed by a local bus.

Mrs Gandhi called the police brutality "an instance of its kind unparalleled since independence". She was exaggerating probably because the state government is run by the Janata Party, now in opposition in Delhi.

But the Prime Minister was correct, after talking to the village women for two hours, in emphasizing that such brutality showed the worst in India's ill-disciplined police.

The very day Mrs Gandhi was in Narainpur, 12 lower caste villagers were shot or burnt alive, seven of them women and two children, in the Bihar village. The well-armed attackers, numbering about 150 were avenging the beheading of a local landowner of the higher Bhumihar caste. He had seized some village lands which had been allocated to lower caste landless labourers.

Such village violence occurs especially in Bihar because of "land grabbing" and caste division among landowners and landless is common.

The Commissioner's report covers the Janata years when Mr Morarji Desai, as Prime Minister, boldly pledged India would eradicate the stigma of untouchability within five years. The Commissioner now soberly comments: "No one who is familiar with the social climate prevailing in the rural areas would advance the argument that untouchability has declined in real terms."

One of the "most obnoxious disabilities" frequently suffered by Harijans was, he noted, the lack of village drinking wells for them. Loopholes in the law were exploited by higher caste villagers, with the connivance of local officials, to identify castes, to classify village wells as private property.

In one northern state local social affairs officers did not even possess a copy of the 1976 Act, many high officials responsible for implementing it were ignorant of its provisions, he found.

Among the measures the Act provides for were collective fines on villages prone to caste discrimination, legal aid and compensation to victims, and better police protection.

Police protection, however, touches another root of the caste problem in Northern India. The police often come from the higher caste and share the same prejudices.

A report recently submitted by the National Police Commission underlines the interrelated problem of interference by caste-ridden politicians. While political leaders like Mrs Gandhi use outbreaks of caste violence as a stick to beat their opponents with, they also use caste at election times to bring in their own votes.

As long as political patronage of the police continues, the Police Commission argues, it will be difficult to train up more impartial and law-abiding police forces. Today, corrupt policemen were more often protected, the commission complains, than honest officers who face posting for their law-abiding spirit.

Developing countries too addicted to drugs

From Our Correspondent

Vienna, Feb 12. Three hundred delegates from 70 nations are trying to work out a strategy to deal with international drug abuse. They are meeting here for 10 days at the sixth special session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

The Commission can only make recommendations to the United Nations General Assembly. Any further measures are the responsibility of individual governments.

The commission has received reports which present a picture of serious drug abuse. Apart from the United States the number of heroin addicts is growing steadily throughout the world. Cocaine, once considered the drug of the rich, could now be afforded by a much broader pattern of consumption.

There is also widespread and growing abuse of amphetamines and barbiturates, even among the developing countries.

Perhaps the greatest difficulty confronting the commission is that of preventing abuse at source. Most drugs, such as opium and cocaine are produced in countries where the bulk is used by the local population.

The governments concerned are often not capable of financing alternative types of farming and are unwilling to attempt control of consumption among their own addicted populations.

In Latin American countries the export of drugs has become such an important part of national budgets that huge trade deficits would occur if transactions were stopped.

Iran and Afghanistan are among the major problem areas. Afghanistan remains a big producer and illicit exporter of opium according to a recently published report of the United Nations International Narcotic Control Board. Iran plays an increasing role in opium and heroin trafficking.

Iran is a member of the commission's board and Afghanistan was invited to the session as an observer. Neither delegate was present at the opening.



A day at the races—Rhodesian style



Expectations running high at Borrowdale Park racecourse, just outside Salisbury, where the expressions on the faces of black and white Rhodesians studying form and watching the racing betray nothing of the wider problems facing the country.

Racing is conducted by the Mashonaland Turf Club under rules of the Jockey Club of South Africa.

Photographs by Brian Harris.

Part of any military equipment given to Pakistan is likely to be pointed eastwards, towards India President Zia fears subversion

From Ian Murray

Paris

In Pakistan, where any newspaper article critical of President Zia ul-Haq and his Government is removed by the censor, it is a relief to find a reproachful white space to be left on the page. Martial law says the space must be filled with an inoffensive story.

In consequence, the current form of criticism is the bitter satirical joke. One of the most popular, has Ayatollah Khomeini going to see Allah to ask when all his problems will be solved. Allah replies: "Not in your lifetime." Then President Zia goes to Allah and puts the same question. Allah replies: "Not in my lifetime."

Now that joke is outdated. The latest is that when Allah made the world he forgot to make up for it he sent the Russians into Afghanistan.

President Zia has certainly been capitalizing as much as possible on his role as leader of a vital buffer state between the communist and non-communist worlds. He has dismissed the American offer of \$400 million "presents", and after Dr Zbigniew Brzezinski's visit it has been agreed to shelve that idea for a higher assessment.

The President made it clear he is looking for "durable and credible" aid from the United States, covering not only military needs but the development of the country. His country's experience of past American support has been a "bitter" one, he says, but he is prepared to forgive and forget provided

there is a new commitment to help his Government, with no strings attached.

Before the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, President Zia was virtually an international leper because of his refusal to stop the execution of former President Bhutto, his indefinite postponement of elections, and his martial law regime.

He now finds himself almost able to attract aid from the West and Islamic countries—but two things still trouble the countries approached for aid: the possibility of a Pakistani nuclear bomb and the possibility that arms supplied to Pakistan might be used against India.

President Zia and his military advisers are convinced that the true danger to Pakistan of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan is not a full-blooded invasion but subversion in the form of money and practical aid across the border to insurgents. Whatever safeguards are given, therefore, it is more than likely that at least part of any military equipment supplied to Pakistan will be pointed eastwards towards India.

President Zia's main internal effort against the Soviet Union is expressed not in his frequent terms but in his frequent appeals for national unity. These have led to a ban on all political parties and since the Russians have used every opportunity to tell the nation that now is no time for change.

He goes out of his way to emphasize how loyal Baluchistan is. Since Pakistan became independent Baluchistan has risen in open revolt on several occasions and there are still thriving nationalist movements in the sparsely populated province. Yet to hear the President talk one would think it was the most patriotic part of the country.

While there is no proof that any single Baluchi group is yet capable of uniting all the tribesmen and forming a breakaway country, President Zia has every reason to fear this might happen. There is also every reason to believe this is exactly the type of movement the Russians will try to foster.

The President also fears the effect of the Afghan refugees in his country. The strain of feeding tens of thousands of extra mouths is likely to cause economic havoc. Just how many genuine refugees there are is questionable; certainly some Afghans have been attracted over the border by the prospect of a free tent and four rupees a day pocket money.

Worse, however, is the unsettling effect on Pakistanis of receiving large numbers of people who are supposed to be in armed conflict with their Government. Many belong to the same tribes as their Pakistani hosts, speak the same language and worship in the same way. It will be surprising if they do not fan the flame of revolution, which is already flickering in Pakistan.

President Zia can perhaps take comfort from the fact that the Russians miscalculated if they expected the Afghan population and cannot count on using Afghanistan as a secure base for subversion for the foreseeable future.

Search for body of green monkey disease victim

From Our Correspondent

Nairobi, Feb 12

A Ugandan doctor and a nurse are progressing well in a Nairobi hospital after contracting the Marburg virus (green monkey) disease, a rare and frequently fatal disease first identified in West Germany in 1967 when several laboratory workers died after working with monkeys imported from Uganda.

Kenyan authorities are trying to trace the body of a Frenchman who died in the hospital six weeks ago, soon after being admitted in a comatose state. His death was ascribed to viral hepatitis, and the body was later flown to France for burial.

It is now feared that the Frenchman may have died of the Marburg virus, and may also have communicated it to Dr Shem Musoke, aged 37, and the unnamed nurse.

Source: unknown. After the outbreak in West Germany, the Marburg disease next appeared in South Africa in 1975 when an Australian who was thought to have contracted it while travelling through Zambia and Rhodesia died soon after admission to a Johannesburg hospital. A woman with him and a nurse also fell ill but recovered (our Foreign staff writes).

The following year, 400 died in Sudan and Zaire after contracting the Ebola virus, which has marked similarities with the Marburg virus. Last year the Ebola virus caused 27 deaths in Angola and Yambio, Southern Sudan.

Symptoms of the disease begin with severe headaches, followed by high fever and collapse. Rashes form all over the body and bleeding occurs from gums and nose. The mortality rate from Ebola disease can be up to 90 per cent, compared with 25 per cent from Marburg disease.

Doctors are hampered by the fact that diagnosis is possible only from laboratory antibody tests not available in remote areas. In neither case have scientists established the original host of the virus which is why they consider the so-called "green monkey" disease a mystery.

At Porton Down, Wiltshire, where four years ago a strain of the Marburg disease nearly killed a researcher, government researchers were standing by in case of an appeal for help from the World Health Organization.

Dr David Simpson, the consultant in charge of the special pathogens reference laboratory at Porton, has given advice by telephone to Kenyan medical experts.

Civil marriage coming to Greeks

From Mario Modiano

Athens, Feb 12

If you are an atheist, or an agnostic, you cannot be married in Greece as this is the only country in Europe where there is no civil marriage. Only religious weddings have legal force.

Now all this is apparently going to change. The first cracks have begun to appear in the wall of resistance that the Greek Church has put up to the idea of legalizing civil marriage.

Archbishop Seraphim, the Greek Primate, told a church conference on the subject last week: "We cannot blackmail people into participating in a ceremony in which they do not believe. Far too much blood has been spilt for human rights and freedom, that we cannot mock them."

The Greek Government has been studying this question lately, especially in the context of harmonizing its laws and institutions with those of other EEC countries. In fact, both Germany and Sweden have complained to Greek authorities about repeated instances of bigamy by Greek workers who seem to have no qualms about getting married to foreign girls by civil ceremony, then deserting them (often with a child) for the sake of their "lawful" Greek wife back home.

The Orthodox Church of Greece has good reason to oppose the change. It draws much of its influence from the absolute dependence the Greeks have on the clergy for the legalisation of such events as getting married, divorced, or buried.

Besides, the fees from these ceremonies have been a primary source of revenue for the church.

Relations between the Greek state and church were soured lately because some bishops refused to comply with a new law which made it possible for a marriage to be dissolved if the partners had been separated for six years or more, despite objections from the wronged party.

This was a one-time law, valid for only six months, designed to regularize thousands of broken marriages in which the recalcitrance of one spouse had led to the establishment of illegitimate households and a multitude of illegitimate children.

The Government, which decided to defy the opposition of the church, enacted the divorce law. And at least two bishops, then refused to sign the divorce papers issued under this law. They have been sued for dereliction of duty.

Against this background there has been increasing support for a separation of church and state, a separation that many respected Greek churchmen and theologians consider beneficial for the church since it would have to rely on its own merits to elicit the flock's loyalty.

The introduction of civil marriage would certainly be a step in that direction, so the church decided to organize a public debate on this question at Peneli Monastery, which was attended by senior bishops, professors of theology, members of Parliament and of the judiciary.

The opinion that prevailed was that the church should agree to the legalization of the civil marriage, but only for the benefit of established atheists and those "who are indifferent to religion".

During the debate, a High Court judge urged church leaders to agree so that the Greeks should have freedom of choice. "I am convinced," he said, "that they will opt for a religious wedding, just as they prefer a religious burial even though it is not obligatory." It was pointed out that in the latter case the person immediately concerned was not usually consulted.

Archbishop Seraphim, who wound up the debate, said: "We cannot keep people in the church by force. What is the logic in cases where we compel one who does not believe in religion to go through the wedding ceremony? Why should the church tolerate, often knowingly, this mockery of the sacrament? We must accept the civil marriage," he added, "as an optional arrangement."

Princess opens Hongkong's new underground

Hongkong, Feb 12.—Princess Alexandra today travelled in the first train to link Hongkong Island with the mainland to open the colony's underground railway system.

The railway took four-and-a-half years to build and cost 1.8 billion people each day by the mid-1980s. The trains and the stations lack any frills in order to make room for as many people as possible.

Princess Alexandra opened the initial 6.7-mile track between Hongkong Island and the New Kowloon Peninsula. A 6.5 mile extension to the new town of Tsuen Wan is still under construction.

Princess Alexandra pressed a button in the driver's cab to start the silver-coloured train for the four-minute journey from Tsimshatsui Station under Hongkong Harbour to Chater Station on Hongkong Island.—Reuter.

Jail for night siren

Genoa, Feb 12.—Mr Blasios Manolopoulos, a Greek sea captain who set off his ship's siren in harbour at night to stop an argument among his crew, was today jailed for two months and fined 60,000 lire (£33).

Orphans stolen from refugee camps

From Neil Kelly

Bangkok, Feb 12

More than 600 Kampuchean orphans have been abducted from a closely guarded section of the Sa Keo refugee camp in a border area of Laos. At Khao I-Dang, closer to the Kampuchean border, another 1,200 orphans are generally out of sight in bamboo and grass houses in an encampment of 112,000 Kampucheans.

About 1,000 more orphans are as hard to find in other Kampuchean refugee camps in east Thailand. Neither the children nor their adoptive parents will talk to strangers until they are satisfied that it is safe to do so.

Behind those suspicions is the fear that foreigners may abduct the orphans. High Commission for Refugees say that 60 orphans have disappeared from Khao I-Dang in the past two months as a result of such abductions.

There is evidence, a UNHCR official said, that people visiting the camp, some, perhaps, were well-meaning but misguided. Others were baby brokers. Confronted, adoptive parents are never far from their charges. Deciding what is best for the orphans is one of the most perplexing and emotional of all

refugee issues. International aid organizations are divided on the issue and many governments are under pressure to take in the children quickly and in large numbers.

Mr Alan Wood, Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs in the state Government of Victoria in Australia, is examining the problem here. His Government has been urged to airlift 400 of the children immediately to Melbourne, where 400 married couples have declared their willingness to adopt them.

That would run counter to UN policy and would be opposed by the governments of Thailand, Australia and Victoria.

"We would not take them without the full blessing of all authorities," Mr Wood says. "We will take some providing they are orphans but it will probably be 20 or 30. I don't think we could pick up 400."

Mr Wood said he supported UNHCR policy, which states that no child should be regarded as an orphan until extensive operations have been carried out to trace relatives. Sixty months is suggested as an appropriate time for such investigations.

A computer at the Australian National University in Canberra is being used for collating information about the orphans. Their photographs will be published in a book to be circulated in many countries.

Some charitable organizations, notably Terre des Hommes, accuse the UNHCR of a "standstill" policy on the orphans, and claim that every day the children spend in the camps lessens their chances of a normal life.

Mr Tim Bondy, a Terre des Hommes official, said: "We reject the idea that they should be left in Thailand in their own culture and because they represent the future lifeblood of Kampuchea. What culture? The culture of the Khmer Rouge? Each child should be considered as an individual."

UNHCR officials defend their policy with figures. They say that 74 orphans in Khao I-Dang have been reunited with relatives in the past two months.

Sindararith, aged 14, grinned as it was explained that his mother had just been found in France. He has not seen her for five years.

Those who run the orphan centres say that if searches for lost families fail it would be best for orphans to be adopted in other countries, but until then they ask prospective adoptive parents to stay away.

Cuba on lookout for 'counter revolutionaries'

Havana, Feb 12.—A campaign to stamp out counter revolutionary activities is under way in towns and factories, throughout Cuba after President Fidel Castro's warning on December 27 that "counter revolution is again raising its head".

President Castro told the National Assembly it was a mistake to think that after 20 years the revolution had been won. He said that revolutionaries should "never drop their guard, even if no imperialist enemies are at work".

In the same speech, he announced that a special 4,000-man unit had been set up to weed out offenders and "keep them out of the way for as long as necessary".

First to react to President Castro's call were the revolution defence committees, set up in 1959 and gathering most Cubans in their ranks. On January 22, Señor Armando Costa, the new national committee chairman, told a meeting of the 14 provincial committees that Cubans were ready to fight any enemies of the island.

This general mobilization follows the strengthening of 24-hour guards at every crossroads.—Agence France-Presse.

Four groups in Philippines unite against Marcos rule

Manila, Feb 12.—Four Philippine political groups announced today that they would unite to form a national opposition to President Ferdinand Marcos and the rule by martial law proclaimed more than seven years ago.

The announcement came 13 days after the country's first local elections under the emergency The New Society Movement (KBL) of President Marcos won nearly all seats in the polls to elect 73 governors, 1,500 mayors, their deputies and local councils.

"Heretofore, the opposition was on a regional and fragmented basis, but we have the wisdom to unite to be able to project a national opposition group against Mr Marcos and martial rule," Mr Gerardo Roxas, a former senator told reporters.

The groups are the National Union for Liberation, which won three governorships in the

elections, the Mindanao Alliance, which won one governorship, the Pusyon Bisaya and the Concerned Citizens Group of Zamboanga City in the southern Philippines.

The National Union for Liberation includes former President Diosdado Macapagal, one of the most outspoken critics of President Marcos.

The Leban or People's Power Group of former Senator Benigno Aquino, the country's most prominent political detainee, was not included in the new grouping announced today but Mr Roxas said: "I'm quite sure that he would be happy to learn that we are surely but slowly getting united."

The new group, whose name has not yet been disclosed, has five members in the interim National Assembly, which is dominated by the KBL after elections last April.

Seoul, Feb 12.—Two hundred and twenty costly live snakes, prized here as a food reputed to restore the male sexual appetite, were stolen from a South Korean shop.

Model son

Tokyo, Feb 12.—Mark Thatcher, the 26-year-old son of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, has agreed to act as a model for Kanebo, a Japanese textile company.

Accept outcome of defiance, journalists told

Wellington, Feb 12.—Journalists who defied the law for reasons of conscience should accept the consequences and not seek special protection, Mr Gerald Long, managing director of Reuters news agency, said today.

He told a meeting of the New Zealand National Press Club that even in a liberal country a journalist could face jail, for example, for withholding information about a story's sources.

"In my opinion in those circumstances, the journalist then decides through various pressures how long he stays there," Mr Long said.

"I don't believe that journalists should seek special protection and I don't believe in legal protection for journalists who do not disclose their sources. If their professional conscience demands that they defy the law, they must accept the consequences."

Mr Long repeated his criticism of New Zealand's expulsion last month of Mr Sergei Zimin, the Novosti correspondent, as a retaliatory measure against the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.—Reuter.

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PARLIAMENT, February 12, 1980

Sale of BSC works to private sector 'an excellent solution'

House of Commons
If British Steel wished to sell off some of its plants which might otherwise be closed, this would be an excellent solution, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said at question time.

Mr Ivor Spink (Bromley, Orpington) asked the matter, asking: "Has the Prime Minister seen the suggestion that the profit-making of the steel industry should be taken over some of the assets of British Steel and show them how to operate at a profit?"

Mrs Thatcher: "The private sector of steel in operation in the same world in which the British Steel Corporation is making heavy losses. There would be no objection from the Government to the steel industry wishing to sell off some of its plants which might otherwise be closed. It would be an excellent solution."

Mr William Garel-Jones (Warrford, C) asked the Prime Minister to consider the case of a number of my union, ASTMS, working as a nurse in British Steel who has felt obliged to resign her job under pressure on her to contribute to the strike funds.

Incidents of this kind bring the trade union movement into disrepute and make it difficult for the Government to introduce moderate reforms of trade union law. (Conservative cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: "Incidents of this kind bring the trade union movement into disrepute, but I think have demonstrated the need for this Government to reform trade union law and get ahead with its trade union reforms. (Conservative cheers.)"

Mr Kenneth Carlisle (Lincoln, C)

in earlier exchanges, asked—Will she consider the plight of the engineering industry? Many engineering companies will soon run short of steel, even though stocks still exist in this country.

Has the Government any plan to ensure that this steel can reach those companies which need it? Mrs Thatcher: "So far most industry has kept going extremely well, in spite of the shortage of steel. The steel industry is going on strike have to consider is the effect which their strike would have on their fellow workers in other industries."

Will she have the steel industry with them in the decision they take to get back round the negotiating table.

Mr Roger Maate (Faversham, C)—Mr Thatcher—The fact that the Opposition to join her in sending a message of congratulations to the employees of the Sheerness Steel Company on the sale of Shipley who have refused to be intimidated by mass picketing and have democratically asserted their right to carry on working despite mass picketing and some very unpleasant practices inflicted upon them by visiting pickets?

Mr Thatcher: "The fact that the Opposition to join her in sending a message of congratulations to the employees of the Sheerness Steel Company on the sale of Shipley who have refused to be intimidated by mass picketing and have democratically asserted their right to carry on working despite mass picketing and some very unpleasant practices inflicted upon them by visiting pickets?"

It is notable that private sector steel in the same world as the British Steel Corporation is able to make a profit and pay dividends and all the other things of which we want more in this country.

Getting the nation to live within its means

The present Government was the only one likely to pursue a policy to bring the nation to live within its means, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during exchanges with Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, at the minimum lending rate.

Mr Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab) recalled a speech by the Secretary of State for Employment (Mr James Prior) in which he said the biggest handicap small businesses had to suffer was the 17 per cent minimum lending rate.

When he said a few (he asked) with the Prime Minister's monetary policy?

Mrs Thatcher: "The fact that we have high interest rates in public expenditure last year... (Labour interruptions.)"

Surely the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr Geoffrey Howe) does not argue with that? It is a matter of fact in the expenditure White Paper. Perhaps he is referring to himself.

Mr Callaghan: "As the MLR was put up to 15 per cent last June when the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir Geoffrey Howe) told us that it was a necessary step to take before it came down, what has gone wrong with the Government's policy?" (Labour cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: "It was, in fact, 14 per cent not 15 per cent. But Mr Callaghan does not care a tuppenny damn about one per cent."

We need to get public expenditure down to the business of a nation that has been living beyond its means coming to live within its means, is distinctly uncomfortable. We shall pursue the policy of reducing public spending as a proportion of national income.

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Minister does not expect drop in nursery education places as a result of change in law

Local Education Authorities should have the power but not the duty to provide education for children under compulsory school age, Mr David Jenkins, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in introducing a Government new clause (Nursery Education: England and Wales) during the debate on the Education (No 2) Bill.

A number of other clauses and amendments were also considered. Mr Carlisle (Rutland, C) said it was the intention of the clause to make it clear that it was not a duty to provide education for children under five, but a power to do so.

Mr Carlisle: "The fact that we have high interest rates in public expenditure last year... (Labour interruptions.)"

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send children under five to school, although there was a requirement to provide sufficient schools. It was impossible to say that the level of provision could be held to be.

Equally, although this had been misunderstood by many people, there was clearly no duty nor had there ever been a duty, to provide nursery schools or education, because the only reference to them was that in arriving at their duty to provide education for those under five, they should have regard—and no further than that—to the needs for such provision.

However, although both sides of the House might have been to meet the Plevin Committee recommendations both had had to accept that it could only do so within the resources available.

There was no point in keeping in existence a shadowy duty which was probably unenforceable and in present circumstances insupportable.

The Government was still anxious to see local education authorities should make as possible provision of education as possible consistent with the available resources.

Last year Oxfordshire County Council proposed to close all its nursery schools and classes in the county and to provide alternative provisions of education for those under five, and the chief education officer was asked to draw up a scheme.

The council's resolution started a great deal of controversy, particularly as to whether it was a duty or merely a power to provide education for the under-fives.

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the moment inhibiting, and he was asking his department to consider whether those standards were too tight on nursery education premises.

His department had examined carefully the implications of changing for nursery education. While it was possible, true that a modest charge could in some cases help to tip the scale between reducing existing provision he did not believe it would lead to the opening of new schools and classes.

Any scheme would have to be in practice to exempt those in receipt of supplementary benefit and family income supplement. Any system would bring in little income and would risk depriving children who were in the greatest need of its benefits. In present circumstances it would not be right to introduce charging.

Changing the duty to provide education for under-fives to a power would not in itself cause a reduction in provision. Resources—not whether it was a power or a duty—were the key.

It was not his intention that the new clause should be seen as an invitation to local authorities to abandon nursery education. One or two authorities were considering the closure of some or all of their nursery provision. While this was a course of action which might be regretted, locally elected councillors must decide these matters for themselves.

He was proposing one additional safeguard on such action. An amendment to Clause 12 was to ensure that where a LEA proposed to cease to maintain a nursery school it should be required to provide in the same year as the case of primary or secondary schools to publish their proposals giving two months for objections to be submitted.

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Charges for water already too high

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said at question time that she hoped that water workers demanding more pay would remember that the extra money would have to be found by people who had far less than a large number of the workers themselves.

Mr Michael Sherkey (Hillingdon, Middlesex, C) asked—Will she convey a message to the water workers, urging them to seek a moderate and sensible pay settlement and convey a message that strike action which would shut off the nation's water supply and endanger sewage treatment cannot be tolerated?

Mrs Thatcher: "The fact that we have high interest rates in public expenditure last year... (Labour interruptions.)"

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Alarm over horrific chemical weapon

The availability of chemical weapons to the Warsaw Pact countries was giving the Government anxiety and it was considering what its attitude to it ought to be, Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Defence, said at question time.

He was speaking during questions about his meetings with his NATO colleagues. He said that personally he wished the increase in defence spending to be greater than it was going to be.

Mr John Evans (Newtown, Lab) had asked: "When he meets his NATO colleagues will he make clear that there are many people who do not believe that the Government can bear a 3 per cent per annum increase in defence expenditure?"

Despite the howls of outrage from the Conservative rightwing, will he make clear that he has no plans further to increase defence expenditure?

Mr Pym (Cambridgeshire, C)—He is right to draw the attention of the House to the state of the economy. We have also to draw our attention and that of the House to the fact that we are facing a new and very real economic difficulty. A further effort on defence is required. The whole alliance takes this view.

From my own point of view, I would rather that increase was greater than it is going to be. Despite the economic difficulties, further defence spending is undoubtedly required and that is why we attach such importance to it.

Mr Robert Banks (Harrowgate, C) will be discussing the reports that the Soviet Union is developing chemical weapons. Does he agree that the occupation of Afghanistan will be a look into ways in which the NATO forces must defend themselves against such weapons?

Mr Pym: "I am not able to confirm or deny whether chemical weapons were used in Afghanistan. The protection of our own forces against this kind of type of warfare is thought to be certainly as good, and perhaps better than, any army in Europe. That is some reassurance but what is alarming is the existence of a

chemical capability by the Warsaw Pact countries. It is a horrific weapon, something that gives us anxiety and something that is the subject of criticism. We are considering at present what our attitude to it ought to be."

Mr John Rogers, chief Opposition spokesman on defence (Teesside, Stockton, Lab)—He has taken a cautious view of the prospect of a potential aggressor. That is right. What new options would increase defence spending have created in the situation. We have been facing in Afghanistan? How far would increased defence spending have helped to stabilise the regime in Iran?

Mr Pym: "I am not able to confirm or deny whether chemical weapons were used in Afghanistan. The protection of our own forces against this kind of type of warfare is thought to be certainly as good, and perhaps better than, any army in Europe. That is some reassurance but what is alarming is the existence of a

chemical capability by the Warsaw Pact countries. It is a horrific weapon, something that gives us anxiety and something that is the subject of criticism. We are considering at present what our attitude to it ought to be."

SPORT

Football

Southampton could enter talks about new ground this month

Southampton Football Club could be nearer to acquiring a new ground—as part of the city council's plans for the largest post-war city centre development in Europe. The surprise signing of Kevin Keegan has brought the matter right back into focus, and Council leader, Norman Best, has said the council will go on striving to find a solution to the club's problems.

"The club has done as much as it can to improve safety and comfort, but the present 24,000 capacity at the ground is grossly low for a club in its position and is not financially viable for the expenses it incurs," Mr Best said. He said the signing of Keegan, the European Footballer of the Year, was a further step towards putting the club on the map and enhancing the name of the city.

Mr Best, a keen Saints supporter, said that after a developer had been chosen for the £100m project the next move would be discussions with the club. He hoped the council and club could meet before the end of the month.

Mr Best said that if it was not viable for the club to move to a new ground, then immediate steps would have to be taken concerning redevelopment of the Dell. "We'll have to examine the effects this will have on nearby residents," he said. "I wouldn't rule out a referendum, but we'll wait the outcome of discussions with the club before deciding on our next step."

Lawrence McCoombe, the club's manager, said of the £430,000 transfer: "We've achieved something which the city never thought possible. We have the team, now let us have a better ground."

Southampton was still buzzing yesterday over the news that Keegan was to join the club in July. Even the players admitted they were completely in the dark about the move. They talked of little else at the Dell, where they went through a light training period before going to play in a testimonial match at Bournemouth.

Keegan's move was one of football's best kept secrets. Not even Mike Channon, a close friend, or David Watson, who played with Keegan for England last Wednesday, knew anything about it.

David Peach, the club captain, summed up the feeling of the players. He said: "It's fantastic. Unbelievable that he should come here. It has come at just the right moment. We are doing well and if we can qualify for Europe before he gets here, next season should be really something." He added: "With the squad developing as it is now, we will be able to compete with the big boys."

unable to fill it regularly, may have lost thousands of pounds worth of sponsorship with no Keegan in their ranks.

Brian Mearns, the Chelsea chairman, said: "We had contacted one or two large manufacturers about sponsoring and one company was very interested—it was still waiting for their reply."

Mr Mearns was bemused at Keegan's apparent change of heart. "He stated himself on radio and in the press that he wanted to come to Chelsea. I met him two or three times and I must say I was given the impression by Keegan that he was coming to us if he came to England."

"Having said that, people change their minds. Of course we are very disappointed but good luck to him and to Southampton."

Asked if she had any say in the decision, Mrs Keegan said: "The decision was entirely Kevin's. He knows that wherever he wants to go, he'll go. He's a professional player for a year and a half and ranked thirty-third in the world."

Tennis

Kriek puts Tanner out in first round

Point Springs, Feb 11—Roscoe Tanner, of the United States, the No 2 seed, and the winner here for the previous two years, lost his first-round match to the 21-year-old South African, John Kriek, 6-4, 6-3, 6-1, in a \$250,000 (about £110,000) tournament here. The top seed, Jimmy Connors, needed only 40 minutes to dispatch a fellow American, Dennis Ralston, 6-0, 6-1, at the Mission Hills Country Club.

Tanner's hard service, clocked at over 150 miles per hour, was the only virtue of his game against the stocky, agile Kriek, a professional tour player for a year and a half and ranked thirty-third in the world.

The American, ranked fifth in the world by the Association of Tennis Professionals computer, served five aces in the first round, but was out of his mind after losing a dispute over a line call. However, he managed to get in the closing set and won only five points in the six games.

The smallest Kriek, who he has beaten in his previous two matches, served and volleyed strategy in facing the hard-serving Tanner on an unfamiliar surface. "We have very good from the baseline," Kriek said.

Tanner said that he did not find Kriek's play particularly surprising. "This is my second tournament of the year," he said, "and I'm not going to quit because I lost one match. I've lost two many matches to let one worry me."

From a Special Correspondent, Hamburg, Feb 12

The British men's and women's tennis teams, opening their round-robin tour when the eighth BP Cup (under-21 competition) began today in Hamburg's magnificent Volkspark Stadion, were in good luck. The men, revealing in the first round of the Bolshoi carpet, achieved a rapid victory over the Soviet team, 3-1, as Rafael Nadal, 6-2, 6-3, 6-3, and then the British No 1 Jeremy Bates, 6-2, 6-3, 6-3, won the match.

The girls, both with Wightman Cup experience, made their greater knowledge tell against the Soviet team, 3-1, as the No 2, 19-year-old Debbie Evans, easily beat 16-year-old Yvonne Bendova, 6-1, 6-2, and Joanne Whalley, 6-2, 6-3, won the match. Bates and Evans, both of whom have never entered a woman before, this time there are two, Miss Walker and Joanna Wessner.

Miss Walker, aged 25, first lay on a line in December 1977. She had been entered into a class for beginners at Ips, Austria, by Derek Prentice, a member of the British team, a cousin of hers. In this, her third season, she has finished second in the North American championship, and is now ranked 15th in the world. She is a former member of the British team, and is now ranked 15th in the world.

Luging is not for the faint-hearted. When it was introduced into the Olympics in 1964, a member of the British team was killed. It is not surprising therefore that it is not a very popular sport. It is not surprising therefore that it is not a very popular sport.

Italy lead the challengers

Lake Placid, Feb 12—Italy are the main threat to East Germany's stronghold on the men's Olympic luge title. The 1978 world champion, Paul Hildner, and the newly-crowned European champion, Karl Brunner, lead the Italian assault, but the East Germans will be hard to dislodge in an event they won three times at the 1968 Olympics.

Italy's luge team, the quickest in practice, has a fine chance of adding another title to the doubles gold medal he won in Japan in 1972 in a dead-heat with the East German team.

The women's single luge also begins under the floodlights tomorrow evening after the opening ceremony. The East German team, led by the world champion, Ingrid Isakhardt, will be hard to dislodge in an event they won three times at the 1968 Olympics.

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Olympic Games

Top Russians may have broken rules

From John Hennessy, Lake Placid, Feb 12

John Nicks, the English trainer of the world pair figure skating champions, the Bolshoi (United States), tossed a fair-size cat among the Olympic pigeons here last night. He revealed the contents of a letter charging the renowned Russian pair, Irina Rodnina and Alexander Zaitsev, with transgressions of the rules of the sport. One way and another it seems impossible to prevent the Americans and the Russians from striking sparks of one another.

Nicks says that he has studied film of the Russians' programmes, both the short and the long, during the recent European championships in Vienna last year. He says the Russians' lifts with the hand on the body, "below the pantie line," as someone once put it, are as good as cheating.

Those who were in Göteborg for the European championships will have failed to notice that Zaitsev did indeed, more than once, secure leverage for some lifts from his wife's thigh. The question now is whether or not this is technically illegal. The matter rests with the International Skating Association, who are unlikely, particularly in the present hostile atmosphere, to fail to bring the matter to the attention of officials of the governing body, the International Skating Union.

There is nothing particularly sinister in the Russian pair's lifts, as Nicks himself, a former world champion for Britain along with his sister, Jennifer, virtually admits in his letter. He recalls that a lift included in the American pair's repertoire a few years back had to be removed from their programme.

Given the present political atmosphere nothing would please the Americans more than for their pair, personable people both, to stand their ground against the retreating Russians. Gardner, answering questions about his and Miss Rodnina's relatively poor performance in the United States championships, explained that "this year we're trying to put on these Olympics." He thought that they would be helped by the emotional support of thousands of their compatriots in the arena "giving us quite a boost."

Asked about his opponents, the competition has developed virtually into a match between these two couples—Gardner and his principal virtues as strength, speed, power and maturity. Miss Rodnina, having seen them on television from Göteborg, thought the Russian pair were "basically the same as in 1978, but they still looked strong." Miss Rodnina is 30, her husband 27.

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Nicks went to great lengths to point out, not all that convincingly, that this was not a legal quibble, designed to throw the Russian pair off balance. Literally as well as figuratively. With a contrived flourish of his own, he showed how much easier it was to lift another person with purchase from the thigh rather than the hip.

This controversy could hardly have developed in a more sensitive area. It may be recalled that the American pair became champions at Vienna last year in the absence of the Russians, then missing a two week old baby. Until then Miss Rodnina had won 10 successive world titles (to say nothing of two Olympics) with two different partners and was expected to acquire an eleventh. There were many in the Russian team who were so captivated by the much younger Americans, then aged 18 (Miss Rodnina) and 21 (Alexander Zaitsev), then reached such a brilliant peak that they could well have won any way.

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could deprive itself of the gold medal. Sanyal, who had made a move of just such a mistake at Göteborg that had produced a flood of puns on the word "chicken" at home after Cousin's cousin, Carlo Fassl, had hurled that insult at him.

Sanyal mumbled Cousin's three main challengers: Charles Tickner (United States), athletic and dynamic, good in all three phases, a real competitor (Tickner, world champion in 1978, was fourth last year). Vladimir Kovalev (Soviet Union), good in figures and, pejoratively, "well, just Kovalev" (Kovalev, world champion last year, was third at Göteborg). Jan Hoffmann (East Germany), good at figures, consistent in short and long, sound technically, with many triple jumps (Hoffmann was fourth in the world last year, second in Europe this).

At about this time a dark rumour spread among the British that Cousin had injured a knee in training at Deer Park. It proved to have no substance and I have never seen him looking more serene and relaxed before an important competition as he did on the ice today.

As training for the men's downhill proceeds at Whiteface Mountain, the spirits of Kaurand Berslind, the British champion, began to rise. He finished twelfth and thirteenth respectively in yesterday's races. On the second occasion he was only a second and a half behind the leader, Valeri Tsyganov, of the Soviet Union. Tsyganov, who has been a member of the Soviet team since 1974, was a second in the world last year, and a second in front of Peter Patterson, of the United States. But Cousin is still early days and we may expect some changes as more and more stops are pulled out.

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Anthony Steen argues that private enterprise can help councils to cut costs

Getting service for the rates we pay

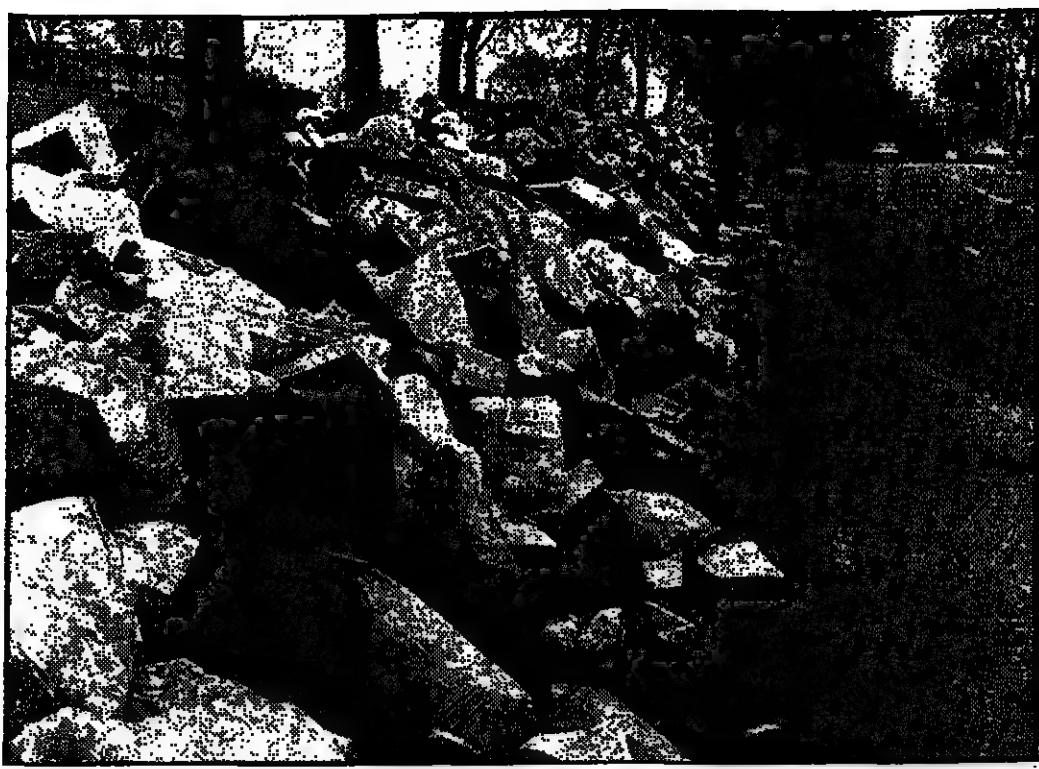
Gone are the days when the primary task of public servants was seen in terms of "giving service to the public". Once they performed basic duties of drainage and sewage (as in *Clochemerie's Le Pissier*) and were paid accordingly. Today, things are different.

Chief officers of public authorities are among the highest paid in the land. They and their officials enjoy privileges often not shared by the rest of society. Their incomes and power affects the lives of millions. Perhaps one indication of the importance with which they are viewed is reflected in the public money (more than £55m for eight London borough town halls) spent on their "mandarin palaces".

Yet more public servants, often located in prestigious offices, have hardly been matched by noticeable improvements in the quality and reliability of services they provide. One can point to the expansion of the social services, but this has reduced the numbers of children in care, or the increasing numbers of old people who are institutionalized. As for urban squalor and inner city decay, this has grown in direct proportion to the size and power bestowed on council planning departments.

Reduction in public expenditure will no doubt, be the excuse for cutting the local authorities' services. But is this necessary?

In cities suffering from rate-income loss, the result of massive population displacement through indiscriminate inner area demolition, local authorities have a perfect opportunity to explore other ways of running their services. They are to do this they must first shake their rigid adherence to the doctrine that statutory responsibilities can be discharged only by public officers employed within their own departments.



Breakdown in service: rubbish piled in South London during last year's strike by council workers.

And so long as the annual income of the local authorities for the most part is committed to meeting inflationary costs and annual salary awards, there is precious little chance of their improving things themselves—as master which political party runs the town hall. Nor is it in our best interests for the majority of public services to be entrusted to officials within local authorities.

Over the past decade there has been a visible drop in quality and standards as a result of increasing industrial disruption to the point where it now appears that councils are losing control over their own employees, and as a consequence are unable to protect the most vulnerable

Take, for example, last year's social workers' strike, or the year-long strike by drivers of wheel chair lifts on one-man operated buses and ambulances in Liverpool which resulted in handicapped children being virtual prisoners in their own homes. Not surprisingly, ratepayers now ask on what basis do they pay rates for services the council cannot deliver. If a strike by dustmen deprives ratepayers of refuse collection (as has happened the past two winters), and compels them to take their own rubbish to a tip, surely they should receive reimbursement. No commercial organization could default in this way, yet councils continue to get away with it.

If local authorities are really concerned to buy the best services for their ratepayers they could start by contracting out to private organizations those services undertaken by their own departments which have either a bad performance record or are especially costly to operate and so are likely to be cut. Instead, local councils now search desperately for ways of sustaining the levels of their own operations. Next year much voluntary effort will be savagely cut as a result.

Yet in many parts of the world, private business has long provided an effective range of city services. Private firms plough snow, keep roads gritted, run school bus services. MacDonald's, the Amer-

ican hamburger chain, provides school lunches in one American state.

In Liverpool, Conservatives see the advantages of contracting out. Refuse collection—now costing ratepayers £5.4m a year—plus £250,000 on administration—is being looked at as one possibility for private contractors taking over on a neighbourhood basis. A private contractor has no need to maintain a permanent work force, is less at the mercy of union demands and has the experience to do the jobs more effectively.

The switch from public to private enterprise need not mean the loss of the public service. The build-up in the numbers of architects and planners in public service could be effectively cut if building control regulations were relaxed and choice from private architects offered through competitive design tenders.

In the social and community services, there is perhaps the greatest scope. Paid "neighbourly care" could result in daily visits by the local housewife, resulting in regular contact with the old and the lonely. It would be better and cheaper than the occasional visit from the "welfare".

Separate provisions from home help to meals on wheels services could be brought together in one, locally based neighbourhood association.

Children's activities and play schemes could be run by mothers themselves, rather than by paid professionals. Rather than the local authorities licking their wounds, they have the opportunity to pursue alternative strategies, dismantling the vast edifice of public bureaucracy and recognizing that the provision of services is best returned to the people themselves. The Welfare State has passed its zenith—a new order of things must begin to exist.

The author is Conservative MP for Liverpool, Wavertree.

Bernard Levin

Notes on a programme for obscurity

A man who can write drivel about Mahler will be inspired to even greater efforts when it comes to Schoenberg...

I have said this before, and I have no doubt that I shall say it again. Meanwhile, I am saying it today. I went to the Festival Hall to hear Abbado and the LSO do the Mahler Fifth, preceded by Pollini playing the Schoenberg Piano Concerto, a work which put me powerfully in mind, and with rather more objective justification, too, of Rossini's celebrated remark to the effect that the overture to *Tamara* would sound just as well played backwards. (The concerto is supposed to be in four movements, but it ended—more precisely left off—after 20 minutes or so without my having noticed any particular alteration in the nature or quality of the sounds.) The Mahler was very exciting, though I let me be as honest as I can: it was, in my opinion, almost invariably done, quite unmoved, whereas Bruckner's almost equally spacious symphonic wrestling finds me deeply involved in his struggle. Bruckner universalizes; Mahler does not.

But that is not what I am about this morning. What I am about is the programme notes for the concert, by Aton Orga, who sounds like an anagram, possibly of O. EAT RAGE, which is what Marie Antoinette really said, or AARG! TOES! which is what the startled policeman said when he found a horrid clue in the case of the gentleman who had grumbled about his wife, or A RAT GOES, which will be the headline on my obituary of a certain politician, or simply GOAT-ARSE, a term of abuse common among Cypriots. I believe.

Anyway, Mr Orga, in his guide to the evening's music, simply bore out the truth enshrined in the definition of such writing that I first put forward many years ago: those who can understand it do not need it, and those who need it can't understand it. As a witness:

... this Adagio functions to some extent as an introduction—in the present case to a predominantly linear, stratified Rondo-Finale of immense scope in which the structural parameters of sonata-form and variation are combined with a masterful display of fugal and imitative textures worthy of the Mozart of the *Prague* or the Jupiter, in the toughness and cohesion of its procedure. Now a man who can write drivel like that about Mahler will obviously be inspired to even greater efforts when it comes to Schoenberg, and so he is, with this result:

In the 40s, Schoenberg re-interpreted this trait in harmonic rather than textural terms, contrasting instead the semi-gravitational quality of serialism with the gravitational inequality of dionysianism. With the Piano Concerto such tendency gives rise to several passages of seemingly retrogressive nature. In the long term, however, these prove paradoxically to be not so much backward-looking as anticipatory of the future. At this mature moment of his development (as we have

or parameters; he will point out the way in which the main themes are introduced and developed, draw attention to contrasts of melody or tempo that the composer stressed, touch upon the quality of the scoring, indicate which instruments are prominent at which significant points, refer to useful parallels or analogies which may be pressed to lie within the listener's experience, and then shut up and let art do the rest. For in the end, as we all know, art is magic, and magic in its purest form, too, which must not yield to one of woman born.

Now at this point, Mr Orga or his lawyers, may ask me whether I can provide any evidence that what I demand can be done, let alone that it has been. As it happens, that's easy: there are half a dozen regular writers of concert-notes today who do exactly what I have demanded above, our own Mr Mann, I am happy to say, prominent among them. But a study of what is available in London's concert-halls may be thought tedious; let me then offer an example of what I mean from a somewhat earlier day. Perhaps some of my older readers will recognize the style—by its simplicity, its honesty, its straightforward practical helpfulness—from their own first steps on the journey into music, and certainly they, and many others who do not know who the writer is, may also recognize the style—here being written about, which is a good deal more than anybody could do with Mr Orga.

The long slow movement (*Larghetto*) is happily designed to contrast with the virile energy of the *Allegro*. The strings start with a melody of stark beauty, echoed by the woodwind. The character of the theme is melancholy, but tender rather than poignant. The second subject (also eight bars) is treated in the same way as the first by the strings and woodwind. A syncopated melody for the first violins seems to be leading us away from the restrained sadness of the opening theme, and presently the second violin and cello bring in a new figure, distinctly cheerful in character. The first subject is repeated in the minor, the movement ends with a restatement by the full orchestra of the opening strain.

That is an account of the slow movement of Beethoven's Second Symphony, by the great Rosa Newman, and I do not believe that the job has ever been done better, or indeed that it can be. Certainly it provides true nourishment for the concert-goer, in a way that the work of Mr Aton Orga does not. A matter, you might say, of TEA OR GAS.

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Olympics: one rule for Moscow and another for South Africa?

The debate surrounding the venue for the Olympic Games has created a dilemma for many of the world's sportsmen and sportswomen. Their anxieties will bring sympathy from their South African counterparts who have for so long been denied that most cherished of sporting ideals—to represent their country in the company of the world's best.

Between the Olympic controversy and the question of sporting links with my country there are both differences and similarities. Now that both issues have become embraced by the same debate, some new perspectives have brought the threat facing international sport into clearer relief. If my views on these reflect strong personal feelings it is because I have enjoyed the privilege of competing at the top, while many of my friends have been denied this opportunity which, to most, comes once in a lifetime.

But the Olympic controversy is unlike the problem faced by our athletes for reasons that are worth examining. In the first instance there is no sug-

gestion the athletes of the Soviet Union should pay the price of their government's aggression. They are free to compete at the Winter Olympics and whenever similar meetings might take place. That is how it should be. The question here is, rather, one which concerns the venue which, given the unparalleled prestige of hosting the Olympic Games, has an importance all its own.

In the case of South Africa it is the athletes themselves who are denied various forms of international competition by those who allege that policies of racial discrimination deny equal opportunity to black sportsmen and sportswomen. In the face of such action was the boycott initiated by the International Olympic Committee 20 years ago.

In the intervening years, and especially in recent times, South African society has undergone

significant, even radical, change. In the process of our evolution, the Government's commitment to the removal of racial discrimination and an equitable political dispensation has also had its effect in the sphere of sport. It is true that there was discrimination. Like most societies, ours is still imperfect—but to deny which continues to occupy our attention. Yet the question that begs the answer is why our athletes should be punished at a time when South African sport no longer denies the black player the opportunities of the white?

The South African Government recognizes the autonomy of the controlling bodies in national sports. These are potential, and their constitutions contain no stipulations of a discriminatory nature. The organization of sport at club level is again regarded as a matter

falling within the competence of the clubs.

Clubs are free to select their membership on whatever basis they may choose—there are no barriers of a racial or other nature imposed by government. No legal prohibitions or hindrances remain regarding the use of public stadia, pitches and sports fields by any competitor.

The sceptic may ask what effect this has had in practice. During the first nine months of 1978, a total of 2,615 mixed sporting competitions took place at club (2,325), provincial (178), national (68), and international (44) level. Since that date such statistics have no longer been kept as mixed sport has become commonplace.

Fact-finding missions and interested individuals from Britain, France and other countries are welcome. Of them we ask no more than that they believe what they see them-

selves. The case for our players and competitors rests on our own sporting society. We will not argue that our case is good because there are so many that are bad.

It is, however, precisely this last point which makes me fear for the future of world sport for there are those who do not see the injustices of victimizing South Africa for "political reasons" while "political reasons" such as unprovoked aggression, genocide and the denial of the whole spectrum of human rights pass unmentioned.

Clause 24c of the Olympic charter reads: "The committee must resist all pressures of any kind whatsoever, whether of a political, religious or economic nature." We note that certain sports administrators who quote this article to defend the Moscow venue are also those who ostracize our athletes. It is this irony which makes some comparison between South African sport and the Moscow Olympics valid and necessary.

Dawie de Villiers is the South African Ambassador in London. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1980

Pity the poor Scots abroad who could lose their kilts

Scottish Officers of Arms have been campaigning to ensure that arduously minded Scots living in Canada do not accidentally find themselves classed as gentlemen of England legally barred from wearing the kilt. They hope their efforts have persuaded the Canadian government to withdraw a proposal to the Queen to exercise her prerogative to appoint a Canadian Herald extraordinary following the precedent last year when a New Zealand Herald was appointed.

What concerns the Officers of Arms in Scotland is that any Scottish Canadian seeking a grant of arms may be obliged by protocol to apply through the Canadian Herald to the English

College of Arms instead of to the Lord Lyon, the crown's supreme officer of honour in Scotland. This would automatically register the applicant as a gentleman of England. The legal and constitutional right to belong to a clan, to wear a clan or even strictly to wear a tartan would be withdrawn. "He would virtually cease to be a Scot legally," Mr Malcolm Innes of Edinburgh, Marchmont Herald said.

About one third of Lyon court business comes from abroad, much of it from Canada. "That is a highly Scottish country. Many Canadians are proudly Scottish and a number of them seek to mark that distinction by applying for

a Grant of Arms to the Lord Lyon. If the English College of Arms prevails in having Canadian Herald extraordinary appointed then Scots living out there would be significantly disenfranchised," he said.

The view of the Scottish Officers of Arms is that if every Commonwealth country had a herald then each would become a separate granting entity. That would lose substantial business to the Lyon court which currently handles about 200 petitions a year, half of them grants of arms and the rest meretricious where descendants apply for an appropriate difference in their family's arms.

A further problem is that the Lord Lyon unlike the English

As a gentleman of England... he would virtually cease to be a Scot legally

Earl Marshal is a judge paid from the consolidated fund and his court depends upon government finance. Like all such departments these days it prefers to present a profitable appearance.

Malcolm Innes explained: "In England there are 13

Officers of Arms each able to operate a private practice as a herald or genealogist. For example the records of the College of Arms are not generally open to the public for research. Anyone seeking information must employ a herald to do the research for

them. In Scotland the records are statutorily opened as of right for a minimal fee." Also in Scotland a new grant of arms without supporters will cost £497 and rematriculation £133. The charges are substantially higher in England.

Hereditarily England and Scotland are distinct kingdoms, but the heraldic laws of the Kingdom of Great Britain are invoked by the crown and the proceeds of his court go direct to the Treasury. The College of Arms is a private incorporation under Royal Charter allowed a much more relaxed attitude towards heraldry so long as arms are correctly displayed. "There is very little mobbishness and

nothing elitist here. Anyone may apply. Our latest grant of arms was to a dogbreeding society," Mr Innes declared. Although heraldic laws have improved markedly there remain some needing anomalies between heraldic institutions north and south of the border.

At the state opening of parliament, and arguably a United Kingdom event, English heralds are invited but not Scottish. When a peer from Scotland is introduced to the House of Lords it is an English not a Scottish herald who carries out the introduction. The English heraldic register is not the Scottish and when the English College of Arms formally

addresses the Lord Lyon the Lord Advocate they invariably omit the qualification of lord, which has been known to bring a few heraldic bloodvessels to a boil.

The shapely, but remembered north of the border happened when the Queen attended a coronation blessing at St Giles cathedral Edinburgh. The Scots turned out in the full splendour of their sovereign's robes. The Queen, on the advice of those whom Scots have long believed should have known better, wore a pink cocktail dress.

The sily has never been repeated.

Ronald Faux

ANKARA DIARY

Power cuts curtail hair cuts

Walking to the office the other day, I heard an unfamiliar, loud, pun-pun-pun noise just a few doors down from my home. Several people had stopped to look at a rusty pipe which emerged from the basement of the block of flats at the corner, went straight up for about 12 feet and turned a sharp 90 degrees to form an inverted L. The pipe was shaking although the end was secured by wire to a tree, and it was belching brownish-grey puffs of smoke.

The hairdresser on the ground floor of the building had put up a new sign which proudly proclaimed, "No power cuts due to generator," which explained the unfamiliar mechanism.

Ladies' coiffeurs (or *Kuaför*, as the signs say), are just one of many establishments which suffer from the daily power cuts of four hours in Ankara. Six days a week, from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm, the electricity goes off with unfailing regularity. In the early hours of the cut, the traffic—already rather erratic to begin with—at the Kavaklıdere intersection becomes a shambles when the lights go out. Policemen in white caps, red in the face from blowing on their whistles, furiously try to wave the magna of cars into motion, usually to little or no avail.

Housewives too suffer a great

deal. Electrical appliances, if one forgets to plug them at 8.30, try to come alive with sickening, growling lurches as the power pours back at 12.30. During those four long morning hours, many apartments are without water because their pumps are not working, and cooking on electric heaters is, of course, out of the question.

Most houses cannot be heated during that period, but this is of little importance, because more than half of the buildings in Ankara cannot be heated even when the power is on.

Cold but cleaner

In the past, the citizens of the Turkish capital dreaded the coming of winter because Ankara is one of the most polluted cities in the world. "We are choking to death," was a common complaint. The additional fact that Turks are very heavy and inveterate smokers did nothing to help the lungs of Ankara residents.

As far as pollution goes, Ankara hasn't had it as good as this winter for a long time. On some mornings, looking down into the centre of the city built in what looks like a three-sided bowl, one can actually see something other than the thick black cloud of smog which usually engulfs everything. The only visible smog these days is a small, greyish mushroom of a cloud just over the central

Kizilay square and its immediate environs.

The problem this year is just that the lack of smog means that the city isn't being heated. So people are freezing to death instead of choking to death. This obviously isn't much of an improvement, and no one really wants to freeze to death.

The wealthy move to hotels with their families. A number of people go on prolonged visits to the homes of friends or relatives who have heating, with the understanding, of course, that the friends will move to their house when the tables are turned, so to speak. Others are determined, apparently, not to leave home, so opt for other solutions.

Many centrally-heated luxury flats which rent for 250 to 300 pounds a month now have squat, black coal or wood stoves sitting in the middle of the living room, a circular hole cut into a window to allow the stove-pipe to stick out.

But coal is hard to find, and so is wood, and enterprising businessmen are coming up with new inventions, or finding markets for almost forgotten ones. One craftsman is converting old sea mines into sawdust burners which reportedly heat a large room very quickly and very cheaply. All one needs to do for fuel is take a trip to the carpenter's shops in the city's industrial district and help sweep the floors.

Most residents, though, resort to a source of energy which is just as short as coal or fuel-oil: electricity.

Silly parents are hopelessly Seventies; they still support the Unions...



The Carrington fans

The local press all agreed that Lord Carrington had the right idea when he visited Ankara in January. The newspapers ran more pictures of the 30 electric fan heaters the Foreign Secretary brought along on his flight than they did of Lord Carrington himself.

But this method of heating

sometimes has disastrous results. I was visiting a friend who lives in the clean and city of "OR-AN", 10 miles south of the capital. Billed as the solution to Ankara's pollution problem, the rather unattractive neighbourhood, which looks like a collection of isolated council houses, boasts such distinguished residents as former Premier Bülent Ecevit and at least three former Cabinet members, including a minister of energy and a minister of finance.

It is a sign of the democracy in the country that neither of them have been immune from OR-AN's heating problem. Mr Ecevit spent a week in bed with the flu, and my friend was telling me that they had had no heating since the beginning of winter.

We warmed up with brandy and about half a dozen fan heaters, enjoying the view of the snow-covered Etilim mountain nearby.

Dusk fell, lights were put on, television sets switched to the evening news and more and more fan heaters were turned on throughout OR-AN as people rushed home from Sunday outings.

But OR-AN's local power station apparently does not cope with the 2,000 to 3,000 watts of extra juice milked from it by every new heater plugged in. We watched, as, in a flash of fireworks, the main power line burst and plunged the neighbourhood into darkness and cold.

I returned to my home which, miraculously, had one of its 28

warm days this winter. My friend packed a suitcase and moved to a hotel, and two children into a suite in one of the big hotels.

Another acquaintance who tried the same solution was told that there were no more rooms in the best hotel in town. He went down the list of hotels with the same result until he reached a standard of hostility to which he found freezing preferable.

The manager of one fashionable establishment told me that a large number of their customers this winter were well-off Ankara residents tired of shivering at home who moved in for a warm night's sleep and a hot bath.

A daub on the steppe

The situation has been unpleasant this winter, the worst the country has known in thirty years. But cold and drab and grey as it is, Ankara is not all desperation. In its polluted heart, it boasts Turkey's first zone restricted to pedestrians only.

This haven which measures two city blocks by four just off Kizilay (Red Crescent) Square, is also the city's favourite eating and drinking area. One block of Sakarya Avenue, which runs through the centre of the pedestrian zone, has been transformed into a huge beer-garden. It has a closed-off "fish restaurant", but most customers prefer to

slip on draught beer and munch on "döner kebab" (slices of pressed and grilled meat), "delicious Black Sea anchovies" (served with a heavily spiced raw sauce), Turkey's answer to steak tartare, sandwiches in the open, chatting with friends and watching the activity of the colourful green-grocers lining the street leading to the none less colourful lawns of the well-lit green fish vendors.

The "Sakarya Beer Garden", as this segment of the pedestrian zone is called, is owned by the municipality, and seems to have started a fad: about a third of all the business establishments in this busy shopping area are restaurants, pubs, and "beer and hamburger" bars.

The pedestrian area was thought up by Ankara's previous mayor, Mr Dalokay, a social-democrat and one of the country's best known architects. It was modelled loosely on Istanbul's once famous "Flower Market", a solitary landmark which suddenly collapsed one night in May 1978.

The people of Istanbul boast that the quality of their persons (a term defining a bon vivant who is a combination of modesty, intellectualism, kindness and benign permissiveness), is the result of years of breathing in a cosmopolitan, half-western, half-oriental metropolis. Ankara, they say, cannot be compared with the Istanbul drinker: they

can be rowdy, which is frowned upon, or boring, which is worse, or have, more often than not, "le vin triste", which is a veritable sin.

It is understandable, for the residents of a city eventually end up being a reflection of the city itself. A collection of small houses around a Byzantine fortress whose foundations were laid five thousand years ago, Ankara had a population of 20,000 in the 1920s when it was made the capital.

Its population today is more than a hundred times that. It was urbanised by German and Austrian architects between 1930 and 1950, which accounts for its drab and austere government offices. Most of the civil servants who make up the bulk of the population, overworked, underpaid, worried and harassed, are a far from joyous lot.

Still, the tiny pedestrian zone has made a big difference. In the summer, when the restaurants and tavernas spill out into the sun-drenched streets, bands play there, there is folk dancing in the streets and open air exhibits of Ankara artists draw large crowds.

A daub of green on the grey Anatolian steppe, Ankara then becomes almost beautiful. It is definitely a far cry from the smog, and snow-bound winter, which explains why more and more residents are taking "summer leave" during the cold months to head for the warmer, unpolluted air of the southern coast.

Sinan Fisek

BOYD
Madras
lege

The £8,000
steelworkers
of Sheerness,
page 19

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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الصحف

We'll show you a
better way to
build warehouses.
ATCOST

- **Stock markets**
FT Ind 469.3, down 0.6
FT Gtts 66.10, down 0.29
- **Sterling**
\$2.2970 down 75pts
Index 72.9 down 0.1
- **Dollar**
Index 85.2 up 0.1
- **Gold**
\$667.5 down \$45
- **Money**
3 month sterling 181-184
3 month Euro \$ 144-147
6 month Euro \$ 144-147

IN BRIEF

Commodity chief hoping to extend US powers

Mr James Stone, head of the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) arrives in London from America tonight for three days of meetings with officials at the Bank of England, the Department of Trade and the London exchanges.

The commission is likely to consider a proposal for a new regulation on February 26 that would state that if a broker or trader refused to identify the owner of contracts on United States markets, when the CFTC requested identification, then the contracts would be automatically liquidated.

The CFTC has the power to obtain such information from American brokers and traders, but not from foreign traders.

Ceramics shuns bid

Ceramics Investments will not be making a counter bid for Armitage Shanks, the sanitary ware manufacturer which has received a £33m offer from Blue Circle Industries. Ceramics has a 25 per cent stake in Armitage and repeated that Blue Circle's share and cash offer was inadequate.

£67m GEC deal

Companies in the GEC group are supplying traction and electrical equipment worth about £67m for the next stage of the Hong Kong Mass Transit Railway. In the first stage, in August, GEC's business totalled about £38m.

Building competition

Britain's private contractors are to be given the opportunity to tender for big local authority projects, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor yesterday told the Electrical Contractors Association in London. He said the Local Government Bill would give private contractors the chance to compete with councils or direct labour organizations (DLO).

Shale oil tender

British Petroleum is one of a consortium of three companies including Conoco Rio Tinto-Zinc and Broken Hill Proprietary, which has put in a tender to develop a possible 5,000 million barrels of shale oil in the Rundle area of Queensland, Australia. The BP consortium is competing with Esso and a Japanese group to develop the deposit which could cost more than £2,000m.

Loucho ruling

Loucho has lost its latest attempt before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and two other Court of Appeal judges, to force the disclosure of the activities of multinational oil companies which it alleges were guilty of sanctions breaching to Rhodesia during UDI. Leave to appeal was granted.

Hoffmann victory

The West German Federal Supreme Court has ruled that Hoffmann-La Roche, the Swiss pharmaceutical group, can offer its tranquilizers, Valium and Librium, at prices determined by the producer. The ruling ended a six-year legal battle.

\$4 price rise by BP expected to set new North Sea levels

By Nicholas Hirst

British Petroleum has raised the price of a barrel of its crude from the Forties field, the most prolific reservoir in the North Sea, by \$4 a barrel to \$33.75, putting British oil prices among the most expensive in the world. The rise was effective from February 8.

It is expected that the state-owned British National Oil Corporation, the biggest trader of North Sea crude, which has the right to buy 15 per cent of the production of all offshore fields, will also fix the price at which it is prepared to buy and sell at \$33.75. As a result pump prices of four star petrol are likely to rise by up to 5p per gallon.

The new level follows increases announced by the North African producers of similar quality crudes. Algeria is charging more than \$37 for its crude, but this includes a joint exploration surcharge which is technically recoverable against expenditure by oil companies in contract with Algeria on new exploration.

Nigeria, which Britain follows most closely, has raised its prices by \$4 a barrel to \$34 and Libya has incorporated surcharges which brought its level to \$34.72.

British Petroleum has led the increase in North Sea prices for the second time in the recent weeks of rising oil prices, both its independence and its willingness to fit into the Government's twin aims of following the market, and so far as possible, being a moderating influence on the international market.

The new figure of \$33.75 is, however, less easy to defend as

a moderate level than the \$29.75 fixed earlier. The lowest level was reached at a time when both Algeria and Libya were charging substantially more, and only Nigeria had struck to \$30 for North Africa crude fixed at the indicative meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Caracas, Venezuela, in December.

In following the \$4 rise imposed by the North African producers, BP has tended to reinforce the widening differentials. It would be doubtful however whether it would be possible for BNOOC to charge any less and remain within the spirit of paying market-related prices.

The rise in oil prices over the past year has saved BP from incurring a loss on its Buchan field development. The cost of bringing Buchan onstream, which was originally planned for late 1979, is running out at £20m more than the planned £120m, largely because of delays in constructing a drilling rig to a production platform.

BP now expects the development to start producing oil in August, running to an average peak production next year of 48,000 barrels a day.

Delays have been such, that had it not been for the sharp rise in the oil price, BP would have made a loss. It now expects to make a return which will justify going ahead with the project.

BP owns 55.6 per cent of the block in which the greater part of the field lies. Texaco has the adjoining block in which the field extends and BP's partners include Shell, the financial group.

Shell chief recruited to strengthen BNOOC

By Nicholas Hirst

Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy, has strengthened the board of the state-owned British National Oil Corporation with several new appointments. They include a senior merchant banker and a senior director of ICI who are to become part-time members of BNOOC and a respected oil man who will become an executive director.

But no decisions have been made yet either on the details of the future structure of the corporation after, as the Government has promised, private subscribers are invited to buy shares, or on the appointment of a successor to Mr Ronald Utiger, BNOOC's permanent chairman and temporary chief executive.

The new part-time members are: Mr Lawrence Tindale, joint deputy chairman of Finance for Industry, the development agency backed by the Bank of England; Mr Jack Lofthouse, a major board director of ICI responsible for petrochemicals and Mr Alcon Coppiarow, a former director of McKinsey, the management

consultancy, who is a general commissioner of income tax and a member of the Press Council.

Mr Lofthouse is to retire soon from the ICI main board.

Mr Macdonald Ford, 54, who is retiring as deputy managing director of Shell UK Exploration and Production to join BNOOC, will be the only executive director to be appointed from outside the corporation.

Mr Ford, who has been with the Shell group for 28 years, will take responsibility for exploration, production and construction, which has been handled directly by the chairman.

He would be a possible choice to run the private arm of the BNOOC when the government floats it off.

Two present officers of the corporation, Mr Ian Clark, the former chief executive of the Shell-Gulf Refining Co and Mr Alastair Morton, who before joining BNOOC was chairman of the venture capital group, Drayton Securities, have also been appointed to the board.

Mr Clark becomes responsible for joint ventures offshore where BNOOC is not the operator and Mr Morton for oil trading, finance, legal and personnel.

man is Lord Hunter, says that tar yields have on average reduced from 31.4mg in 1965 to 17.3mg in 1976. A reasonable objective would be a proportionate further reduction over the next five years, the committee says.

The industry has welcomed the committee's findings pointing out that progress on reducing tar yields should be balanced by an awareness that too rapid a reduction could lead smokers to revert to higher tar brands.

Whether this argument will be accepted by the department remains to be seen for Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, while saying the Hunter Committee's

Sasse accuses Brentnall in action over losses

By Richard Allen

Brentnall Board, the insurance broker, has been accused of "consistently misleading" the ill-fated Sasse syndicate at Lloyd's over the future of American business, which led to huge losses.

The allegation is one of several levelled against the publicly quoted group in a "third-party notice" issued by Sasse Turnbull, the syndicate's underwriter, which is itself being sued by 29 members of the syndicate.

The action in effect claims Brentnall should bear the cost

of any damages incurred against Sasse Turnbull as a result of the suit from syndicate members. Sasse Turnbull has also issued a third-party notice on Lloyd's, one of its codefendants in the original action.

Most of the allegations concern business brought to Sasse by Brentnall Board from Den-Har Enterprises under what was known as the "Den-Har Binder" which led to a large proportion of the £21.5m losses faced by the syndicate.

A number of syndicate members are refusing to meet their share of losses, claiming that regulatory procedures at Lloyd's were at fault.

The Committee of Lloyd's has already told Brentnall Board that it is considering whether or not to allow it to continue doing business in the market as part of its wide-ranging investigation into the Sasse affair.

This has led to a qualification to the group's accounts, issued by Brentnall yesterday. The auditors, Touche Ross & Co, say that the decision by Lloyd's might affect the validity of the "going concern" basis under which the accounts were drawn up.

Brentnall's balance sheet shows that reserves dropped by £369,000 to £504,000 last year. Last month Brentnall reported

losses of £1.3m pre-tax and said that the Sasse affair had seriously affected its ability to gain new business.

In the action by Sasse Turnbull, Brentnall is said to have known that business introduced to Sasse "under the Den-Har Binder" was largely an extremely dubious block of business which had cost the Argonaut Insurance Company in the United States large losses.

Sasse Turnbull claims that Brentnall was fully aware but failed to disclose to the syndicate that the business was uninsured by reputable insurers in the United States, save under

a special compulsory arrangement, and that it was planned to underwrite the balance by underwriting the compulsory arrangement rates.

It also accused the group of failing to disclose a pecuniary interest in Den-Har Enterprises so that there was a conflict of interest in respect of the Den-Har Binder business.

Brentnall is also accused of failing to inform Sasse when it was aware that Den-Har Enterprises had no authority to "bind" business and co-operated with Lloyd's in seeking to effect a cover-up at the expense of the Sasse syndicate "names".

Anglo-American has 'no intention of absorbing' Gold Fields

Continued from page 1

Takeover Panel rules, would require it to make a formal bid.

Mr David Lloyd-Jacob, a joint managing director of Gold Fields, was critical of the way Anglo had built up its stake.

"There are implications for United Kingdom law and the protection of shareholders," he said. This theme was later taken up by Mr Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, who said "the intention of British company law was being at least temporarily frustrated while Gold Fields was unable to identify the buyer of its shares".

Mr Lloyd-Jacob said that Gold Fields had thought about suspending the shares, but the company believed this would be unfair to other shareholders. Gold Fields is clearly not happy with having Anglo as such a large shareholder and there is no intention of asking an Anglo representative to join the board.

Meanwhile, Anglo appears to have shown its hand after the approach to the DoT the previous day. The investigation was formally granted yesterday by Mr John Nott, secretary of State for Trade, and the inspectors are still expected to spend some days going through Gold Fields' share register.

Anglo-American was making no comment about the reasons for its interest in Gold Fields, save to say that it considered it a good investment.

De Beers said in a statement it was "not seeking to change the status quo" as it is to government criticisms of it being "monopolistic". The Oppenheimer group's actions might have been differently interpreted.

The blocking move, however, is not entirely altruistic. Anglo would prefer to exert influence on Gold Fields policies—something which might not have been able to do it another predator had succeeded in the market.

Both Anglo American and Gold Fields would not comment in South Africa. Their attitude was that all that had

to be said would have been stated at the press conference.

In the past Anglo had tried to maintain the status quo in the mining house field. It had held during the Union Corporation bid without attempting any countervailing action and had merely accepted the rebuff that it had received from the government at the



Humphrey Wood (left) and David Lloyd Jacob Consolidated Gold Fields managing directors, revealed yesterday that Anglo American is mystery buyer of the company's shares.

time a bid was made SA Man-genes.

It now appears that the Anglo interests are prepared to play it tougher. With all the development work on the West Wits line, it makes sense for Anglo to get closer to Gold Fields to influence the group's policies.

Anglo had wanted Deelkraal

and Elandrand to be one large mine an dit is understood that the government mining engineer had similar views, but Gold Fields stood out and wanted their own mine.

All the dealing to acquire the block of shares was through London, with instructions coming from a Johannesburg broker.

Poor January for society receipts

By Sylvia Morris

Building societies had a disappointing month in January, according to figures issued by the Building Societies Association yesterday. Although total receipts amounted to £1,750m, higher than the two previous months, withdrawals were also high, leaving net receipts at a modest £235m. December's total was £161m but January is traditionally a good month.

Commenting on the figures yesterday, Mr Norman Craggs, secretary-general of the association, said: "More than double this net figure is needed to

meet the reasonable demands of home buyers". Although the 15 per cent recommended mortgage rate has weeded out the queues to a certain extent, the underlying demand for funds is still strong.

Net receipts for February are likely to be down on last month's figures, partly because of the initial impact of the 15th issue of National Savings Certificates offering 10.33 per cent annually over five years free of tax. The association estimates that this will take about £300m away from them in the next three months.

US car chief urges curb on imports

New Orleans, Feb 12.—Mr

William Bourke, executive vice-president of the Ford Motor Company, has called for restrictions on imports of foreign-made vehicles until American manufacturers can catch up with the growing demand for fuel-efficient cars.

Mr Bourke suggested at a news conference at the National Automobile Dealers Association annual convention that there should be a ceiling of 1.5 million foreign cars imported annually, with historic market shares maintained for individual makers.

His stand reinforced that taken earlier by Mr Douglas Fraser, president of the United Auto Workers Union (UAW), who is seeking legislation to ensure that more of the content of foreign cars is manufactured in the United States.

Mr Bourke said: "What we need this year is a combination of an allocation system and local content rules. These would hold the line on imported car sales until United States auto-makers' programmes for new, more fuel-efficient cars are complete."

He said it would take congressional action to accomplish his goals but acknowledged that the chance of obtaining any such action was slim.

Last year, however, 2.3 million foreign cars were sold in the United States, an increase of about 15 per cent.

Clothing industry seeks EEC action on cheap suit imports

Britain's clothing industry

leaders are seeking urgent action by the European Commission to curb imports of cheap Romanian suits into Britain.

They will produce evidence at a meeting in Brussels today showing that the garments were landed in Britain at prices as low as £7.50 for a three-piece, all-wool suit. These facts cost £20 upwards in the shops.

British manufacturers would be unable to produce similar suits for less than between £25 and £40, depending on the type of material, Mr Gerald French, chief executive of the British Clothing Industry's Council for Europe (CIE), explained.

He is being accompanied in Brussels by Mr Alec Smith, general secretary of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers.

They will tell Mr Guillaume Hoffmann, chairman of the European Commission textiles committee, that unrealistically low price suits from Romania are savaging the British clothing industry.

Under this Article, licenses for imports of the industry have been lost, and Mr French estimates that since September, almost a quarter of the 12,000 workers engaged in making men's suits have lost their jobs.

A further 3,500 workers in the menswear industry are now on short-time working.

Mr French believes that manufacturers have convinced both the British Government and the Commission officials that Romanian suits are being imported at prices which cannot possibly cover costs. They want some action under Article 5 of the bilateral agreement which the Community has with the Romanians.

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Mr French does not blame the present gloom in the clothing industry on Romanian imports. But he says that they are a contributory factor.

In the past six months, 7,000 out of 70,000 jobs in the menswear sector of the industry have been lost, and Mr French estimates that since September, almost a quarter of the 12,000 workers engaged in making men's suits have lost their jobs.

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HARDYS & HANSONS LIMITED



Col. T. E. Forman Hardy,
the Chairman, reports
on 52 weeks to 28 Sept., 1979.

- Profit before tax, at £2.28 million, is again a record for the Company. The figure available for appropriation of £1.33 million compares with £1.18 million in 1978.
- Earnings per share have risen to 20.767p from 17.312p. Final dividend is raised to 6.8p from 5.5p per share, making a total for the year of 9.4p (7.8p).
- Two new public houses have been opened since the year end and two more are under construction.
- The Brewery expansion is well under way. Estimated costs have now risen to £1.8 million, largely due to inflation. This expansion scheme, with the acquisition of sites and building of public houses adds up to a very substantial investment programme, all funded out of our own resources.
- Trade in the first quarter has been slow. We shall be trying very hard to increase our share of the market and we are becoming better equipped to do so as the days go by.

Derek Harris

PRICE CHANGES

Rises	
Charter Cons	17p to 187p
Grand Met	2p to 134p
Guthrie Corp	48p to 857p
Guinness Pet	13p to 127p
Lane, P. Grp	3p to 37p
Falls	
BL Ltd	1p to 17p
BP	11p to 389p
Decca	8p to 585p
Grippeprods	6p to 184p
Hawkins & Tson	2p to 32p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$	2.13	2.25	Norway Kr	11.52
Austria Sch	30.0	65.50	Portugal Esc	11.52
Belgium Fr	69.00	2.65	South Africa Rd	1.88
Canada \$	12.99	12.44	Spain Pta	158.50
Denmark Kr	8.84	9.25	Sweden Kr	9.85
Finland Mk	9.65	9.25	Switzerland Fr	3.91
France Fr	9.65	9.25	USA \$	2.35
Germany Dm	92.00	87.00	Yugoslavia Dnr	52.50
Greece Dr	11.52	10.75		
Hongkong \$	1.12	1.08		
Ireland Pd	1.12	1.08		
Italy Lira	1945.00	1855.00		
Japan Yen	550.00	555.00		
Netherlands Gld	4.61	4.38		

Profits at stake in moves to end jackpot advantage for clubs

Pubs fight stacked odds on the fruit machines

Fruit machines, the so-called one-armed bandits which are ringing up gross annual revenues of £350m for Britain's public houses and clubs, have set off a two-part row that has drawn in the brewer and Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary.

Pegged machine payoffs in the pubs, restricting the maximum jackpot to £1 for a maximum stake of 5p, are part of the row because the clubs. Club machines are often geared to jackpots of £50 to £100 and some go as high as £200 or more.

The other problem is a resurgence of the long-standing battle between tenants of tied pubs and those brewers which insist on part of the takings from fruit machines or gear up a tenant's rent.

Unless there are changes, a decline in profits from fruit

machines in pubs is forecast by Williams de Broe Hill Chaplin, the stockbrokers, in a new analysis of the drinks industry.

The analysis says the competitiveness of clubs increasing and dilution of pub profits possibly arising because the 63,000 fruit machines installed in public houses could reach 70,000 or even 95,000 as smaller breweries take them up.

Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is involved because he is considering what changes may be needed to the Gaming Act after last year's report of the Royal Commission on gambling.

Mr John Watson, Conservative MP for Skipton, has asked the Home Secretary to consider the problems of the different ways that present legislation deals with pubs and clubs and to see what can be done to produce more equitable treatment.

The Gaming Act places the

jackpot restrictions on pubs whose machines also can dispense only half a jackpot in cash while the rest is made up of tokens, although these can be exchanged at the bar counter for cash.

Mr Watson's own view is that pubs should be as free as clubs to offer whatever jackpot they like. Such a move would probably be less complicated legislatively than placing restrictions on clubs.

But the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (NULV) wants competition on equal terms by imposing pub-style restrictions on the clubs. It hopes to have talks soon with the Home Office on this topic.

Last year, however, 2.3 million foreign cars were sold in the United States, an increase of about 15 per cent.

What annoys the NULV, which speaks for tenants of tied houses, is the way fruit

machine profits appear largely to account for the success of the clubs in offering beer at 5p or more a pint cheaper than competing pubs.

There are more than twice as many pubs as clubs, with about 30,000 fruit machines in the clubs and 63,000 in the pubs. But clubs' gross revenue from the machines is put at £225m against £126m produced by the pubs' machines.

Tenants' groups within the NULV are discussing with individual brewers a possible reduction in the 55 per cent slice of fruit machine profits, which they say on average goes to brewers.

Last year the brewing groups collected £42m from the fruit machine profits, tenants picked up £20m and free houses another £10m, the stockbrokers' analysis shows.



Venezuelans plan big rise in oil sales to Italy

Venezuelan crude and refined oil shipments to Italy will increase to between 75,000 and 80,000 barrels a day in 1980 from the 1979 level of 50,000, pending the conclusion of negotiations in Caracas this week.

Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi (ENI), the government-owned Italian oil company, is likely to receive almost all the increase of 25,000 to 30,000 barrels a day from the state-owned Petroleos de Venezuela.

Negotiators for AGIP, the purchasing arm of ENI, are discussing final clauses of the sale contract with Petroleos this week. Venezuela is expected to sell the oil at the same rates it sets for other international clients.

Petroleos is not thought to be trying to deal to a petroleum technology exchange but it is understood that talks are taking place about other possible technology agreements that might parallel the sale. —AP-Dow Jones.

Egyptian bus order

Magirus Deutz, the West German subsidiary of the Dutch Iveco industrial vehicles group, has received a DM 30 million (about £7m) order to deliver 350 bus chassis in knock-down form for the Cairo transport authority.

£17.5m Berlin plant

Tetra Pak, the Swedish producer of wrapping material for liquid foods, is to build a DM 70 million (about £17.5m) plant in west Berlin.

EEC output higher

Industrial production in the EEC increased by 1.4 per cent in November after a drop in October of 0.5 per cent. It raised the Community's seasonally adjusted industrial production index 4.5 per cent higher than the level in November 1978.

Japanese exports up

Japan's certified exports increased by 14 per cent to \$8,570m (about £3,700m) in January compared to the figure a year earlier but were 15.4 per cent down on December's total of \$10,130m.

Germany's tax take

West German tax revenue in 1979 totalled DM343,000m (about £11,900m), an increase of 7.6 per cent on the figure for 1978. Some DM167,422m was payable to the federal government.

Brandt report highlights problems of recycling huge Opec surpluses

Looking for backers to reform world finance

Central bankers, finance ministers and leading figures of international finance are seriously worried about the problems posed by the enormous Opec payments surpluses expected this year and for some time to come. Here is general agreement that institutional arrangements are unlikely to prove equal to the task of recycling funds from oil-rich to deficit countries.

There is a need for new ideas about dealing with the resulting strains on the international economy.

The report of the Brandt commission on North-South relations, published yesterday, contains much of interest about the international money system, and methods of financing payments deficits. It is critical of the world monetary order and of the workings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The report offers plenty of ideas for change. Unfortunately it is all too easy to see how some of these at least may run into the sand. For example, its proposal for a new international body, a World Development Fund, to complement the IMF and World Bank may be a good idea, but it is hard to see how agreement for such a body could be won with one would imagine, the combined weight of the existing institutions against it.

Similarly, the suggestion that new world liquidity should be allocated with the immediate needs of poorer debtor countries more in mind will have many opponents. There has been no official reaction from the IMF to this, or to the report's strong criticism of the IMF's imposition of stringent conditions on the deficit countries to whom it lends.

Brandt's starting point was that the present system of reserve creation and floating exchange rates is chaotic and in need of reform. The commission advocates further demonetization of gold and a boost in the international role of the IMF's paper money, the special drawing right, which should take the dollar's place as the chief reserve asset.

Because its creation is in the hands of an international organization—the IMF—a more rational and ordered creation of global liquidity could be possible.

This should, in the commission's view, benefit poorer, developing countries, which are in greater need of additional liquidity.

The report calls for greater symmetry between rich and poor. Both should have to make adjustments to smooth world imbalances, rather than the burden being pushed onto developing countries.

The IMF has been trying for years, with little success to increase the use of SDRs as reserve assets. Brandt does not present a convincing case of how this, or the more stable exchange rates which the commission would prefer, could be accomplished.

However, the report does identify clearly the problems of the growing debt needs of deficit countries. The combined debt of developing countries rose from \$70,000m (£30,434m) at the end of 1970 to an estimated \$300,000m (£130,434m) at the end of 1979. Much of it was concentrated in a relatively small number of countries, which will probably need to increase their borrowings dramatically in the next few years.

The great debate now centres on whether the commercial banking system, which did the bulk of the recycling last time, can—or should—do it again.

Brandt suggests that international institutions should play a bigger part in the recycling now. They should act in some cases as a medium for lending from the banks to deficit countries. The IMF should relax its conditions on lending, and take a longer term view of the economic prospects and objectives of debtor countries.

The report picks out some areas of financing which are not being met. The chief of these is programme financing, for medium-term development plans. At the moment the IMF deals mainly with short-term adjustments and the World Bank with longer term aid to specific projects.

Many bankers and finance ministers in the industrialized countries have called for an increased role for the IMF in the recycling this time round. Generally, however, they are strong supporters of IMF-ser conditions which, they believe, reduces the risks for private banks.

The IMF now has money to lend and few takers, yet there are many countries in need of substantial finance. New ideas, even if based on hopeful promises about the willingness of the rich to help the poor, must be welcome.

Caroline Atkinson

Forecasters become more pessimistic

By Caroline Atkinson

A gloomy picture of economic prospects is now facing the government, according to the forecasts published below. However, the Treasury forecast of last autumn remains the most pessimistic on output for 1980, with a drop of 2 per cent predicted.

Two of the three most recent forecasts shown—those by the St James Group, and Phillips

and Drew—have been revised to show a more depressed economy. The St James Group, using the Treasury model, expects a fall in output of just over 11 per cent this year, rather than a rise of 0.9 per cent they were predicting last autumn.

Despite the drop in demand this year, imports are widely expected to remain fairly buoyant. Three of forecasters

show them rising in real terms, while one shows them little changed.

Only one of the forecasts—those by stockbrokers Hoare Govett—expects private industry to invest more this year. Hoare Govett believe that the recent high level of bank lending is evidence that the economy is still growing. They expect investment to turn down later this year.

FORECASTS FOR THE BRITISH ECONOMY

	NIESR (Nov)	LBS (Nov)	Year 1980 on year 1979	Year 1980 on year 1979	Year 1980 on year 1979	Year 1980 on year 1979	Year 1980 on year 1979
			Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan
			(% change between years unless otherwise stated)				
Gross domestic product	0.2	-1.1	-0.3	-1.2	-1.5	-1.9	-2.0
Initiation	16.2	15.3	17.0	19.1	18.5	18.0	14.0
Unemployment (000)	1,420	1,287	1,520	1,700	1,600	1,410	n.a.
Consumer spending	1.6	0.1	-0.3	-1.5	-0.4	-0.6	0.5
Private investment inc house-building	-2.0	-2.4	+0.2	-7.3	-1.5	-1.6	-1.0
Public investment inc house-building	-4.3	-2.2	-3.5	-6.4	-1.5	-8.3	-4.6
Public authorities consumption	-0.1	0.5	-2.8	0.9	+0.2	-2.3	0
Stockbuilding (£m 1975)	1,481	-986	+307	-800	+0.1	-800	-2
Exports	4.0	4.0	2.0	1.8	+0.7	-2.8	0
Imports	1.7	-1.1	2.3	-3.3	+1.1	-0.1	-2.5
Balance of payments deficit	-3,300	-680	-280	900	-1,900	-900	-2,000
(£m 1980-81)	9,000	11,200	10,000	9,800	9,100	9,200	
Money supply (% change in M3 fiscal 1980-81)	8	7.5	10.4	9.3	1.3	9.3	n.a.

NIESR: National Institute of Economic and Social Research. LBS: London Business School. HG: Hoare Govett. CE: Cambridge Econometrics. SJ: St James Group; published in Economist. P & D: Phillips and Drew.

Fourth quarter 1980 on fourth quarter 1979. * fourth quarter 1980. * excluding oil. * gross fixed investment. * private fixed investment. * public corporation's fixed investment. * stockbuilding as % gdp. * second quarter 1981 on second quarter 1980. * PSBR is forecast to stay at about the same % of gdp in money terms as in 1978-80.

Forecasts for gdp components are in constant prices. The private forecasts assume policy changes. For details readers should refer to original sources. Categories in different forecasts are not completely comparable, but differences are minor. Differences in result also reflect difference in assumptions, model constructions and date at which work was performed.

The month in which work was published is given in brackets. Forecasts, published by the Treasury twice yearly: NIESR, CE and SJ four times a year; LBS three times a year; HG and P & D revise their forecasts every month.

Euronet data link for EEC being inaugurated

By Bill Johnston

Euronet, the European Community's data transmission network linking the nine member states, is being inaugurated officially today in Brussels by Madame Simone Veil, President of the European Parliament.

The EEC Commission drew up its first three-year plan for the communications network in 1975.

The network was implemented by a European consortium of computer and communications companies led by SESA in France and Logica in Britain.

London, Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, Luxembourg, Paris, Dublin, Copenhagen and Rome will now be linked together in the network and different operators of 175 data bases, scattered throughout Europe, are also connected to Euronet.

Any person within the EEC, having the appropriate terminals and telecommunication coupling, can converse, either through a public network or via a private line, to the Euronet system. Its advantages, apart from immediate user access to volume data banks in nine languages covering economics, sociology, science, mathematics and hundreds more subjects, is the cost of providing that service.

The cost, which will be uniform in all member countries, when the system is fully operational, will be calculated largely on a connection charge and the duration of the call. The method of transmission is called packet switching, where modules of data are transmitted at high speed.

The special coding accompanying each package means that they can be sent at the same time to several users, while at the same time protecting each one's security of information. At present the routing of a particular package from one city to another is controlled by a switchboard in London, Frankfurt, Paris and Rome, and the pricing of all services is collated in London before the package is distributed to any of the other member states.

The charges for the system are only varied in what the individual members charge users for connections to a switching exchange. For example, between Birmingham and London, an extra charge could be payable before joining the Euronet system in London. At the moment the United Kingdom, Denmark, The Netherlands and Italy operate similar pricing, but this will be made uniform within Euronet.

Law Society urges cut in gains tax

By Sylvia Morris

A memorandum issued by the Law Society today calls for reductions in the rates of both capital gains and capital transfer taxes.

The proposals, issued in response to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement that he was undertaking a thorough study of these taxes, do not support their abolition, but recommend a "spring cleaning" operation.

Capital gains tax should be charged only on sales of assets rather than on transfers by way of gifts. The memorandum also urges that relief should be given for inflation by increasing the value of assets by a fixed percentage for each year. It is held. Relief on business assets should be extended to encourage commercial investment.

The Law Society also calls for substantial reductions in the rates of capital transfer tax. More people should be exempt and the top rate should be 50 per cent rather than the present 75 per cent. It says.

Special recommendations are made on business assets, agricultural land and the application of capital transfer tax to trust property.

Stamp duty payable by homebuyers should be reduced and small duties should be abolished, the society says.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Computer-aided techniques in mechanical engineering

From Professor J. Black

Sir, The recommendations for the widespread adoption of computer-aided techniques in mechanical engineering put forward in the Aard report (reviewed in your columns February 7) are an immediate and significant confirmation of the relevance and importance of the Finnisian recommendations for engineering education and its financing.

If we in the United Kingdom are to catch up, and then lead, in the application of such techniques, and not be restricted only to research and development, we must have many more engineering graduates who will be familiar with computer-aided engineering, and who will be able to apply it effectively in design and manufacture throughout both large and small firms.

To achieve this they will need the proposed additional length of courses devoted to engineering practice, and the special hardware and software required

will only be provided in universities and polytechnics with the "ear-marked" extra funding advocated by Finnisian. The mid-career engineers caught up in this technological revolution in the design-office and the machine-shop will also need the short courses covered by the "formation" and continuing education proposals, "hands-on" experience with the new equipment.

The timeliness of both reports was underlined to me last week when I visited a French computer-aided system company set up jointly with French government and private finance, to exploit the academic and government institute research work. Their marketing campaign has been helped by a circular distributed throughout French industry by the Ministry of Industry describing the advantages of CAE and setting objectives.

To encourage, with partial financing, putting CAE experience into industry, to incite

French industry to develop CAE products; to accelerate, with the aid of the Ministry of Universities, the diffusion in the universities and the engineering colleges of the techniques of the CAE, their target is to have 2,000 systems installed in French industry by 1982—and it was reported to me that 20m francs had already been allocated this year to this applications programme.

Sir Monty, in his preface, stated "unless urgent actions are taken, continuous relative and possibly absolute industrial decline is inevitable". The application of computer-aided engineering is certainly one area demanding such urgent action, and the financial support recommended in both the Finnisian and Aard reports, if we are to remain a competitive industrial nation.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH BLACK,
School of Engineering,
University of Bath,
Claverton Down,
Bath, BA2 7AY.

Industry's dialogue with the community at large

From Julia Cleverdon

Sir, Kenneth Adams rightly concentrates in his letter (February 11) on the need to change attitudes towards industry if we are to arrest our economic decline.

To change attitudes towards industry necessitates all of us in industry taking action to get an understanding of why industry matters.

Initiatives and actions of this sort are beginning to bring about the changes in attitudes so desperately needed. However, the key action is to make sure that employees, through regular communication and involvement at work, are the greatest ambassadors and advocates of the importance of industry to their families, schools and local community.

Yours faithfully,
JULIA CLEVERDON,
Communication Director,
The Industrial Society,
Peter Russell House,
Cottonwood Terrace,
London SW1V 5DG,
February 11.

Auditing the accounts of small companies

From Mr L. Bushby

Sir, In a brief article on small company audits (February 6) the Financial Editor concluded that there is no real pressure for change from small companies themselves. However, in its response to the Government Green Paper on company accounting and disclosure, this Association of Independent Businessmen (the oldest representative body for small firms) favoured the introduction of a limited review.

The association sought the views of a selected number of members and the consensus of opinion was that the statutory requirement to audit accounts of small companies should be abolished. The Government should agree with the accountancy bodies the form this should take and then encourage the Inland Revenue to accept this in lieu of an audit. It would appear that the purpose of an audit is not fully understood by the small company sector, as many small companies believe the audit is a way of checking on the integrity of their staff.

Many small companies are also unaware of the revised auditing standards that will be applied and the possible difficulty in complying with them. It is generally agreed that the standards which apply to large publicly quoted companies may be too onerous when applied to the very small independent company.

We believe the accountancy profession has more to offer small firms than just an audit. Help in the preparation of the budgetary control and cash security systems, cash flow forecasting and management accounting are perhaps more useful than an audit, which is often out of date when seen by the management.

It is worrying that these considered and positive views do not seem to have permeated the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

L. BUSHBY,
Chairman,
Business Law Committee,
Association of Independent Businessmen,
Europe House,
World Trade Centre,
London E1 9AA.

Aid for the developing countries

From the Chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation

Sir, Professor Peter Bauer asks rhetorically (February 5) "Who could possibly be against aid to the less fortunate?" He proceeds powerfully and persuasively to produce arguments why all of us should be against aid of the kind currently given from Britain's diminished resources. He rightly suggests that "aid" is an emotive word.

But by introducing the equally emotive words "expayers' money" in his opening paragraph he may, by the skillful presentation of his arguments, dissuade governments not only from the giving of aid that does not in truth help those to whom it is given, but from courses to which his arguments cannot apply.

There may indeed be aid that does not reach the targets at which it is aimed or that has damaging repercussions (Professor Bauer's words). Even here, it is too much to assert that all of it is worse than useless. Remedying deficiencies in the infrastructure of former colonial territories is an objective that can be achieved through official aid—and should be. It will be tragic if the persuasiveness of Professor Bauer's writings causes the baby to be thrown out with the bath-water.

Any taxpayer who feels that all his contributions are misapplied. The view of your contributor, represented by the caption given to his article, that aid encourages the belief that betterment does not depend on self-help is a sweeping view that should be at once challenged in the interests both of those to whom official aid is given and of those who supply our means of giving aid. A substantial element in British aid has the opposite aim and opposite effect.

The Commonwealth Development Corporation was set up in 1948 charged with the task of

investing in developing countries, funds provided by the Treasury, in development projects which help to increase the wealth of those countries, but which also yield a reasonable return on the money invested.

Although the monies advanced to the corporation annually by the Treasury must be due course be repaid by the corporation they are part of Britain's "aid" budget and may thus be thought to be subject to Professor Bauer's strictures.

Happily, however, the corporation's record shows that it has avoided the damaging repercussions to which he refers. Its philosophy is to help others to help themselves and it can claim to have been successful. At the end of 1979, it had invested in some 260 projects in 45 countries, a total of more than £300m, much of this being self-generated funds.

Total commitments are more than £470m. It has the confidence not only of the governments of the countries it seeks to serve, but also of international development agencies. There are many reasons for its management services as well as for the comparatively modest sums that it is able to invest. It would be sad indeed if those who provide that money were to be dissuaded from so doing by any belief that much of the overseas aid currently given by Britain fails to achieve its purpose.

I have the honour to be Sir,
Yours faithfully,
GREY OF NAUNTON,
Chairman,
Commonwealth Development Corporation,
33 Hill Street,
London W1A 3AR,
February 5.

ling EEC report on regional aid, which makes the same case, with quantities to prove the economic point. But what about the condition within this country? Strathclyde, Merseyside, Wales (and other areas) were independent nation states, they would either (a) reduce consumption, (b) raise productivity or (c) starve to death. As it is, there is a vast transfer of resources (which means money) from the prosperous to the decayed.

These transfers more than account for the budget deficit. Glasgow costs us more than ten times as much as it receives, back from the Exchequer. For thirty years these transfers have taken place and nearly all this money has gone down the drain or on to the scrap heap via unearned personal consumption. No Government has ever faced these areas with the need to restructure by means of self-help.

South of a line from Gloucester to Skegness, England (despite the incubus of London) lives in the twentieth century, has a high ratio of successful employment, competes successfully with the world and has a low incidence of deshabling malnutrition and other social difficulties. Quite otherwise the rest of the United Kingdom.

There are many historic reasons for this state of affairs, which go beyond Cobden and Bright, but in the relatively prosperous years up to 1973 we never faced the problem and now of course the condition is much more difficult and demanding.

The first need is to recognize a painful economic truth, not to obscure the issue with facile talk of "social justice", whatever that may mean.

I am, Sir, yours etc,
HENRY HOBHOUSE,
Bottom Barn,
Castle Cary,
Somerset BA7 7LW,
February 5.

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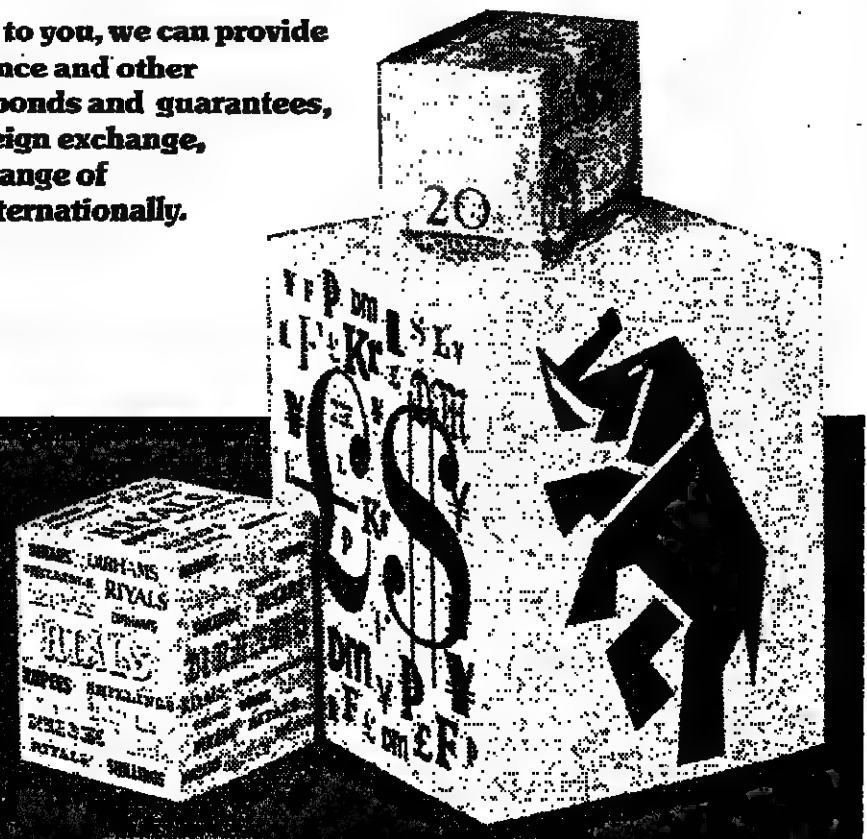
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ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Feb 11. Dealings End, Feb 22. Contango Day, Feb 25. Settlement Day, March 1.
 5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

TELEVISION

BBC 1

7.05 am Open University. Beginning Reading; 7.30 Argument on Television (1). Closedown at 7.55.
9.05 am Schools. Colleges: Engineering; 9.35 am Exploring Science; 9.58 Let's Go (for mentally handicapped); 10.12 am Words and Pictures; 10.30 History and Economics (animal foods); 11.02 Science All Around (bottles); 11.25 You and Me: For the very young; Our New Baby (r); 11.40 Schools. Colleges: History (Country of the Setting Sun); 12.05 pm Russian—Language and People: 5 (r). Closedown at 12.30.
12.45 News and weather.
1.00 Pebble Hill at One: Geoffrey Pardoe, the energy expert, talks about nuclear power. In the studio, too, is Dr. Mike Flood, from Friends of the Earth.
1.45 Playboard: Puppets for children.
2.01 Schools. Colleges: Watch (Robinson Crusoe—Rebuilding); 2.18 Near and Far; 2.40 Communicate (Inside radio). Closedown at 3.00.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University. Sealing the Future: 7.05 Ultrastructure of Cells; 7.30 Brain Structure. Closedown at 7.55.
10.30 Gharbaj: For Asian viewers, includes a short story for children. Closedown at 10.45.
11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1.
1.35 Closedown at 11.55.
1.45 Racing From Ascot: The main race is the Whitbread Trial Handicap Steeplechase at 3.00. We also see the 2.00, 2.30 and 3.35. Closedown at 3.50.
4.50 Open University: Haemoglobin; 5.15 Models in Chemistry.
5.40 Cartoon Two: Czechoslovakian language. A Bird's Life. An award winner.
5.50 Pride and Prejudice: Final episode of Jane Austen's adaptation of the 1813 novel. Cupid's dart strikes home (r).

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Politics (1978 Hamilton by-election); 9.52 My World (use of space); 10.10 How we Used to Live (Victorian Inventors); 10.33 French (Lions); 11.04 Stop, Look, Listen (bricks); 11.16 Flaming Out (Verona); 11.36 How to Use (to Live (Victorian Christmas)).
12.00 Adventures of Rupert Bear: Rupert and friends become roses (r).
12.10 pm Rainbow: The theme is markets. With Brian Peck.
12.30 The Sullivan: Family serial. Paul's theft.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 The Spooks: Comedies about office life. Rex's evening. With Bernard Hepton, Ken Jones.
2.00 After Noon Plus: Interviews with Sir Peter and Lady Medawar. He was awarded a 1970 Nobel prize for his pioneering immunological research work on organ transplants. She is well known for her work in family planning.
12.40 The Goodies: Australian adventure yarn. Young lad and older man become involved in an armed robbery.

THAMES

3.45 Hobson's Choice: Derek Hobson's choice. 4.15 The Sooty Show: The puppets are joined by Paul Fox, a juggler.
4.45 Spiderman: Cartoon. Cloud 9.
5.15 Mr and Mrs Quiz: Quiz game with three couples showing how much one spouse knows about the other.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.25 Crossroads: Motel serial.
7.00 This is Your Life: Another Eamonn Andrews biographical programme.
7.30 Coronation Street: Maris Riley gives the mysterious telephone caller one last chance.
8.00 Very Like a Whale: Brand new John Osborne work, about an industrialist (Alan Bates), coming apart at the seams. Gemma Jones plays his second wife (see Personal Choice).
9.30 Party Political Broadcast: By the Labour Party.
10.00 News.
10.30 Frank Sinatra: The First Forty Years: Famous people pay tribute to the singer. They include Orson Welles, Cary Grant, James Cagney, Rita Hayworth and Harry James.
11.00 am Close: Religious reading by Andrew Crookshank. Through the Year with J. B. Phillips.

THAMES

Thelma Barlow in Coronation Street (ITV, 7.30)

BBC 1

3.25 Children's Wardrobe: Ann Laburny on how to make shirts and trousers (r).
3.55 Play School: John Yeman's story The Bear's Winter House.
4.20 Pile and Dixie: Cartoon. Wise Quack (r).
4.25 Jackanory: Cyd Hayman tells the oriental folk tale The Greedy Peacock. The pictures are Gillian Chapman's.
4.40 Take Hart: Tony Hart with some splash paintings.
5.00 John Craxie's: The story of a family.
5.40 News: With Kenneth Kendall. 5.55 Nationwide.
6.00 Rags: Bum's Valentine Special: Cartoon, with an element of romance between the two.
7.25 Olympic Grandstand: The opening ceremony of the XIII Winter Olympics, from Lake Placid. At 8.35, a team of BBC experts will pick out some of the

BBC 2

6.45 The Master Game: Who will win the chance to qualify for the final of this chess tournament, will it be Vladimir Horowitz, or Czechoslovakia, or Helmut Pfleger, of West Germany, the world's best amateur player? The moves are printed in The Listener.
7.15 News: With subtitles for the hard of hearing.
7.25 Mr Smith's Indoor Garden: Geoffrey Smith's hints on how to grow flowering plants, including blue hydrangeas, fuchsias, clematis, cinerarias and hellebores.
7.50 Film: Cover Girl (1944). One of Hollywood's best musical films. A girl who becomes a top model. With Gene Kelly in peak condition, and Phil Silvers at the top of his comedy form (see Personal Choice).
9.35 Arena: Portrait of two women

THAMES

4.45 Spiderman: Cartoon. Cloud 9.
5.15 Mr and Mrs Quiz: Quiz game with three couples showing how much one spouse knows about the other.
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THAMES

Thelma Barlow in Coronation Street (ITV, 7.30)

THAMES

Thelma Barlow in Coronation Street (ITV, 7.30)

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.05 Mid-Week.
9.00 News.
9.05 Gardeners' Question Time.
9.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Four Frightened People (3).
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.37 Play: The Calf; End of the Line.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 5

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 6

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 7

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 8

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 9

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 10

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
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4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 11

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
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7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 12

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
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7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 13

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
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10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 14

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
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9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 15

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 16

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 17

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 18

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 19

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 20

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 21

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 22

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 23

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 24

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 25

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.30 am Weather.

Radio 26

5.50 Regional news, weather.
11.00 Study on 4: Sur le Viv (15).
11.20-12.10 am Open University: The Map of the Ocean Floor, 19th Century Technology.
12.30 News.
1.00 News.
1.05 Baker's Dozen.
1.30 Today in Parliament.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Play: Night, by Elizabeth Pringle.
4.00 Choral Evensong.
4.40 Story: Thunderbolt.
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
6.00 My Music.
7.00 News.
7.30 The Archers.
7.40 Checkpoint.
7.45 On the Town.
8.00 Think About It.
8.45 Analysis.

